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Dniester Issue Discussed in Istanbul

According to Moscow TV, the leaders of Russia, Moldova, Ukraine, and Romania held a meeting in Istanbul to discuss the situation in the Dniester region, following the summit on economic cooperation among the countries of the Black Sea Basin. At the meeting, the presidents adopted a joint communique in which they proposed "an immediate cease-fire, the beginning of separating the conflicting sides, and the creation of security zones and corridors." They also agreed that the status of the 14th Army would be determined "in the near future at Russo-Moldovan consultations." ITAR-TASS adds that the sides should begin the disengagement of their armed units "24 hours after the cease-fire comes into effect." The report further states that these measures will be carried out "through a parliamentary commission, made up of representatives of both sides" and that the separation of the warring sides "will be monitored by UN observers who are due to arrive in the Dniester region at the end of this week." The presidents suggested that the Moldovan parliament "discuss and settle the problem of the status of the left-bank regions of Moldova."

According to Moscow TV, Russian State Secretary Gennadiy Burbulis stated that "Moscow is ready to use economic pressure to force Moldova to grant autonomy to the Dniester region." Igor Smirnov, president of the Dniester Moldovan Republic, stressed that "talks on the situation on the left bank without the participation of its representatives are condemned to failure" and expressed "bafflement" at Romania's participation.

ITAR-TASS notes that Boris Yeltsin stated that "although the positions of the sides do not coincide as far as everything is concerned, a number of measures were worked out in Istanbul, measures that make it possible to hope that there will be a cease-fire."

Yeltsin Returns From Dagomys, Istanbul

Russian President Yeltsin returned to Moscow following talks held in Dagomys with Georgian and Ukrainian leaders and in Istanbul for the meeting of Black Sea states. In an interview with Moscow TV, Yeltsin noted in his meeting with Georgian leader Shevardnadze on the Ossetian issue that the talks were "difficult. On the whole, I think we agreed on all the technical and organizational questions. We did not agree on one question, which, of course, may perhaps be the most important—on the status of South Ossetia, since South Ossetia" wants to be an autonomous formation and "Georgia does not agree with this and does not want to give it such independence."

Ukrainian Border Troops Placed on Alert

Kiev International reports that Ukrainian troops along the border of Moldova were put on alert in connection with the "aggravation of the situation in the Dniester region."

Iran Purchases of Nuclear 'Brain Power' Eyed

PM2506103392 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jun 92 p 3

[Report by N. Dolgoplov: "Tehran and the T-72's. Rumors Circulate That Our Tanks Could Go To Iran for Only 9 Billion"]

[Text] Paris—Parisians eyed these demonstrators with ironic bewilderment. Suddenly at the Place du Trocadero, with a view of the Eiffel Tower, there are these Iranians demanding freedom, justice, and nothing more or less than the overthrow of their own President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The unrest in Iran began as follows. At the high behest of the state, bulldozers began to clear away meager dwellings slapped together without authorization by the poor and needy. In one place some people were badly hit; in Mashhad a boy was crushed to death. The situation flared up with unexpected force, comparable only to the explosion of anti-Shah protests in the second half of the seventies.

Near the Arc de Triomphe I met Mohammad Mohadissin [as transliterated], one of the leaders of the "Mojahedin of the People of Iran" organization.

"Many people here in the West misinterpret what is happening in our country," he insisted. "They think that Iranians are discontent because of the poverty into which the country has been driven. The external debt has reached \$20 billion, and the standard of living has declined by 50 percent since Khomeyni came to power fifty million entirely unemployed and quite frighteningly young. [sentence as published] Three out of every four people under 25 are without work, but for some reason few people recall the political reasons, although they are obvious: The people are weary of religious tyranny.

[Dolgoplov] Do you mean that they are tired of the ideas of Islam?

[Mohadissin] Not the ideas, but the way they are presented and rammed down their throats. We, the mojahedin, are also Muslims, but religion should not be stifling. When we come to power—soon, I hope—we will give the people the right of complete choice, and they will hardly prefer anything else to secular government.

[Dolgoplov] But why then is Islam making such a triumphant procession through the former republics of Central Asia, if nowhere else? Look how quickly they are turning into true allies of Iran.

[Mohadissin] The export of Islam is carried out skillfully. How many times has it been stated that it recognizes no borders, that its only borders are ideological? There is open flirtation with CIS countries, not only with the Muslim states, even with Russia.

[Dolgoplov] It is a little more tricky for Islam to win people over in Russia.

[Mohadissin] Nevertheless. Have you heard of the 10-year contract, worth \$9 billion, concluded with Russia?

Billions will go toward the purchase of your T-72 tanks, and you know about your atomic scientists' being invited to Tehran to create a nuclear bomb?

[Dolgoplov] Virtually no one from our country has agreed.

[Mohadissin] You are mistaken. If you want, I will give you the names of two Russian scientists who have already started work.

[Dolgoplov] Are you not confusing them with the ones who were enticed from the Central Asian republics?

[Mohadissin] It would be wrong of me to mix them up. No, really: In addition to them, specialists in the field of nuclear energy from several Muslim states which belonged to the USSR are also working in Iran. Incidentally, they are working alongside guests from China. Tehran emissaries have been everywhere. Their aim—and they were successful—was not only to buy brain power but also to obtain the sale of know-how, of your methods of processing nuclear materials, and sometimes also to buy those materials.

[Dolgoplov] You overestimate the possibilities of your adversaries in Tehran.

[Mohadissin] This is real. They spare no expense for these purposes, and your countrymen, who need dollars, sometimes agree. For example, the Iranian defense minister went to Kazakhstan, offering to purchase the components needed to create lethal weapons.

[Dolgoplov] On the contrary, I read in the Paris press that Iran itself is acting as salesman for one of the warring sides in Karabakh.

[Mohadissin] That is true. Only I doubt whether it is a salesman. A supplier would be more accurate, and I do not believe a supplier for any one side but for both.

[Dolgoplov] Where is the logic in that?

[Mohadissin] It is entirely apparent. What regimes does it suit present-day Iran to install in the neighboring ex-Soviet republics? Not communist regimes, you agree? Naturally, not democratic regimes. Not secular regimes either, of course. Consequently, purely religious regimes. For this it is necessary to weaken both hostile sides, as, for example, in the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan. [Mohadissin ends]

Of course, the Mojahedin opposition leader painted his own position of what is happening in and around Iran. But the picture is curious. Our southern neighbors are working quite closely with our fellow countrymen and our former fellow countrymen. At least, a stubborn search for atoms and nuclei is going on in our neighbors' backyard. Let us just hope that these amusing toys do not return to us again in some other form. Our brains, their skilled hands, and hey, presto?

U.S. Senate Hearings on START Treaty Viewed

PM2606100792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
25 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by Aleksandr Shalnev: "START Treaty Ratification: Not Everyone in U.S. Congress Believes in Non-nuclear Ukraine"]

[Text] Washington—"Ratify the START treaty!...Otherwise, we will merely add strategic uncertainty to economic and political uncertainty, and there is plenty of that in the former Union. If that happens we will be doing a disservice to the CIS states and, worst of all, to the American people."

Secretary of State James Baker issued that appeal-cum-warning to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee where hearings began Tuesday [23 June] on the START treaty. When this treaty was signed in summer 1991 it was a bilateral treaty between the USSR and the United States. Now, however, as the secretary of state recalled, it has become a quadripartite treaty since three other nuclear powers—Ukraine, Byelarus, and Kazakhstan—became full parties to it.

But to judge from the questions put to Baker at the hearings, the Senate is not at all sure that the multilateral element is a plus and thinks that it might complicate the implementation of the treaty and the accompanying documents. Senator Joseph Biden, a Democrat from Delaware, drew attention to the fact that according to the Russian foreign minister's recent statement, Russia is not going to begin the process of ratifying the treaty until the three other partners affiliate to the nuclear nonproliferation regime. "I have serious doubts," the senator said, "whether Ukraine will keep its promise."

The Lisbon protocol left many things till later, to the future, Republican Richard Lugar remarked: The republics still have to agree among themselves on how the START treaty is actually going to be fulfilled...But our committee, the senator went on, wants to be sure that after ratification the three republics will abide by international law regarding the observance of commitments under the treaty.

In the answers that Baker gave, admittedly, I heard nothing to completely dispel those doubts. Hence the assumption that efforts will be made in the Senate to "attach" an amendment to the START treaty which would ask the republics, first and foremost Ukraine, to affiliate as soon as possible to the nonproliferation treaty. Senator Biden has already hinted transparently at the likelihood of such an amendment, which, if adopted, would undoubtedly complicate the ratification process and slow it down.

The situation could be complicated many times over. As the secretary of state said, it will take at best three or four weeks to produce the final version of the new treaty, envisaging the scrapping of our SS-18s and the reduction by more than half of America's sea-launched missiles, and at worst it will not be ready before 1 September.

September 1 will be too late for the present Senate to discuss and adopt the new treaty. Thus it will be necessary to wait for the general elections and for the new Senate to convene. When it does it will hardly tackle disarmament questions right away. Therefore, the ratification of the treaty which Bush and Yeltsin agreed cannot be expected before next spring.

Therefore you can understand the pressure that Baker applied to senators on the first day of the hearings. I have already mentioned the crucial argument which the secretary of state used: "Unless we ratify the START treaty the uncertainty in the countries of the former Union will be exacerbated."

Other arguments were used: The Yeltsin-Bush treaty "is entirely meaningless without START"; "When START goes into force at least one delivery vehicle, including heavy bombers from the former Union's arsenal, will be scrapped every 68 hours for the next seven years"; "START will make it possible to end the long-standing and historical Soviet passion for secrecy regarding missile telemetry"; START certainly "does not curb the creation and deployment of nonnuclear military technologies, like, for example, conventional cruise missiles, whose effectiveness was demonstrated during the Persian Gulf war."

Safe Nuclear Transport Cover Sent to Moscow

LD2306152492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1243 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow June 23 TASS—A consignment of protective nylon covering for safe transportation and storage of nuclear weapons was delivered today in Moscow on a U.S. military transport aircraft from Frankfurt on the main.

"The 125 ton cargo is only the first portion of the protective covering delivered to Russia," Richard Lally, an American representative told ITAR-TASS. Lally added that the supply of nylon covering will be continued under the agreement on safe and reliable nuclear arms transportation and storage.

An official representative of the Russian Ministry of Atomic Energy, Anatoliy Sednyev, who received the cargo, said that the supply is of great importance, especially now that the process of conversion is underway in Russia.

Observers Check Arzamas-16 Weapons Destruction

LD2306152692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0300 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] According to IMA-PRESS, in the town of Arzamas-16 the destruction of tactical nuclear weapons has begun. The arrival of a group of observers from Ukraine is expected. They are to see for themselves that they are really being liquidated and not moth-balled.

Black Sea Economic Summit Continues in Istanbul**Yeltsin on Reinforcing Trust**

*LD2506154292 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 1400 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Video report from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpts] The leaders of 10 countries including Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan met today in the capital of Turkey to discuss problems of developing the Black Sea region. [passage omitted] So far, the 10 countries have signed a declaration on Black Sea economic cooperation, registering the desire of these countries to turn the Black Sea into a zone of prosperity and friendship. [passage omitted]

Russian President Boris Yeltsin spoke at the opening of the Istanbul summit:

[Begin Yeltsin recording] Esteemed Mr. Chairman: First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to you for the initiative of holding a summit devoted to signing a declaration on Black Sea economic cooperation, and for the hospitality and cordiality you have shown.

The Black Sea region has been the cradle of many civilizations. Here one can clearly feel the breath of centuries of history. Immense experience has been accumulated in contact among the peoples of Europe and Asia, and in coexistence and mutual enrichment of the different cultures, traditions, and religions, each unique in its own way. It is our task to reinforce the reserve of trust and to use it for the sake of deepening the rapprochement among people. Favorable conditions need to be created to develop cultural ties and for mutually advantageous economic cooperation among states of the region today and in the long term.

Right from the start Russia has supported the idea of setting up a zone of Black Sea cooperation and prosperity. It has taken an active part in drawing up the provisions of the declaration. The areas of collaboration outlined in the document are of great importance for our country. We believe that by moving to practical steps we will succeed, in conjunction with our partners, in attaining a qualitatively new level of collaboration in the fields of transport, communications, power engineering, agriculture, health care, and other spheres. [end recording]

Calls For Broader Cooperation

*LD2506190292 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[M. Ponomarev video report from Turkey; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Most founders of the community of countries are burdened by serious political and economic problems. Despite this, Turkey considers it expedient to pool the

efforts of the countries in the region to equalize the levels of common economic development.

The basis of the declaration is formed by the idea of initiating large-scale multilateral cooperation in key economic areas—transport and communications, science and technology, health care and ecology, and the systematization of industry—with the aim of subsequently unifying the markets of the participating countries.

[Begin Yeltsin recording] Russia considers it important that cooperation within the framework of the the Black Sea region be of an open nature. Russia will back the participation of all interested states sharing the objectives stated in the declaration. I welcome the possibility of using the experience in the development of multilateral economic ties accumulated by others, and we are ready to share our own experience. [end recording]

When signing the agreement, all the presidents stressed that the Black Sea economic community is not in any way competing with the EC and will not be an alternative to the idea of a united Europe. The declaration records principles of cooperation that are completely in keeping with the stipulations of the CSCE Final Act and the Paris Charter.

[Begin Yeltsin recording] We want to strengthen peace and stability in this region and to see that the Black Sea always unites peoples and that its shores are peaceful and open to all-round cooperation. [end recording]

Caucasus Leaders Comment on Conflict

*LD2506204792 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1900 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[M. Ponomarev video report; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] President of Azerbaijan Abulfaz Elchibey met journalists on his arrival in Istanbul to sign the Black Sea declaration. Naturally, talk centered on Nagorno-Karabakh, where the crisis is inexorably growing into a local war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Elchibey emphasized that he does not consider the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in its present form to be an interethnic conflict but rather a political ruse by Armenia, the president believes, to satisfy its territorial claims.

[Begin Armenian President Ter-Petrosyan recording] I consider the sides in the conflict not to be Armenia and Azerbaijan, but Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan. [end recording]

The Azerbaijani leader stated unequivocally that war is not what he is counting upon to settle the conflict. We are ready for any talks, said Elchibey. At the same time, he stated that relations with Iran have sharply deteriorated since Iran is supporting Armenia. To a question from journalists on whether the president wants to take advantage of the situation to hold talks with Ter-Petrosyan, who is also in Istanbul, Elchibey replied that the experience of previous meetings has shown that in actual fact the Armenian president is not in control of

the situation on his side. In connection with this, so as not to turn the talks into a sideshow, there is to be no meeting. The ministers of both sides should get to work. When there are results, then I will meet Ter-Petrosyan, Elchibey stated.

[Begin Ter-Petrosyan recording] The fact that the Azerbaijani president refuses to discuss these issues with me is his problem. I think that he still lacks experience. To ignore international etiquette is, in my view, unbecoming, but it will pass with time. [end recording]

For now, the position of Azerbaijan remains unaltered: Let the Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh enjoy the same rights as other peoples, but they are all obliged to observe the constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

[Begin Ter-Petrosyan recording] What lies behind the Nagorno-Karabakh problem? It is the lack of any guarantee of security and normal living conditions for the population of Nagorno-Karabakh. A guarantee is not words; it is a mechanism, and mechanisms need to be put forward along with specific resolutions and the specific implementation of these mechanisms. This still does not exist. [end recording]

Turkey's Ozal Interviewed

PM2606080192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
26 Jun Morning Edition p 5

[Interview with Turkish President Turgut Ozal "specially for IZVESTIYA" by ITAR-TASS correspondent Yalchin Ali-Zade in Istanbul; date not given: "Black Sea Version of 'Great Silk Road'"]

[Text] Istanbul—Economic cooperation between peoples is a guarantee of peace, Turgut Ozal stated on the eve of the Black Sea countries' economic cooperation summit, which opened in Istanbul 25 June.

The world's peoples, the Turkish president noted, are striving to create a new model for the world system, in which traditional East-West confrontation gives way to an increasing rapprochement between states.

We as a state should merely create favorable conditions for the free movement of people, capital, and goods. To achieve this, I am sure that we must very rapidly and with joint efforts remove the bureaucratic impediments that are currently hampering this process. First, we must simplify visa regulations—as far as I am concerned, I would abandon visas altogether. Second, we must create a common denominator for customs regulations and instructions. Third, we must unify the tax systems of the countries of the emergent Black Sea cooperation region.

Businessmen—be they from Turkey, Russia, Bulgaria, or other countries—need to be given opportunities that would allow them to operate freely in any state. They must have absolutely the same guarantees when trading or investing abroad as they have at home. I think that this approach will make it possible to accelerate and

simplify the process of moving to a free market economy in the former socialist countries.

....In this connection I believe that it would be useful at the meeting that is beginning in Istanbul to examine the questions of setting up a joint Black Sea cooperation bank, developing transport arteries, modernizing the Black Sea ports, and creating an extensive telecommunications network. In other words, we are essentially talking about setting up a new "Great Silk Road" under modern conditions, and the peoples themselves will best pave the way.

Since we have referred to bureaucracy and a formal approach to cooperation, I would like to mention what we call "trunk" [baulnyy] tourism. There have been calls for it to be banned. It is well known that the opening of the border checkpoint in the region of the Georgian village of Sarpi has led to a sharp increase in the influx of tourists from the former Soviet republics to the Black Sea region of Turkey. Opponents believe that the visitors are supplying low-quality goods to the Turkish market, allegedly upsetting the region's trade balance. I take the entirely opposite view. Whatever happens, if certain goods can find customers, it means they are in demand, and this means that an element of trade is present—which is the very core of direct economic relations between people in different countries. Indeed, this small step can be seen today as the beginning of a new version of the "Great Silk Road."

May I take this opportunity to wish success to the Istanbul summit, and to express the hope that its participants will be bold, persistent, and selfless. I am sure that the plan for economic cooperation between the Black Sea countries has a great future, and its success will depend, above all, on the good will of the partners. I believe that with the Almighty's help, this region will turn over the next 10 years into one of the richest parts of the world, where peace and mutual understanding will reign.

Yeltsin, Demirel Discuss Cooperation

LD2506181592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1605 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Yalchin Ali-Zade, Vladimir Malyshev, and Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Istanbul, 25 Jun—Russian President Boris Yeltsin today met Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel in Istanbul. The meeting took place within the framework of a series of bilateral talks between the Turkish leader and the heads of delegations taking part in the summit meeting of countries of the Black Sea basin, which has taken place.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent learned that questions on the further expansion and strengthening of links within the framework of the treaty on the basis of relations of the Russian Federation and the Turkish Republic were

discussed. Specific ways of implementing the declaration signed in Istanbul on Black Sea economic cooperation were also reviewed.

Azerbaijan, Turkey To Broaden Relations

*LD2506194392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1858 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS for AZERINFORM]

[Text] Istanbul June 25 TASS—President Abulfaz Elchibey of Azerbaijan met with Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel here today. During the conversation which was held in a friendly atmosphere, the two sides agreed to develop and broaden bilateral relations in all fields.

The Azerbaijani side pointed out that all conditions for such cooperation had been created following the triumph of democratic forces in the republic.

This meeting was held within the framework of a series of the Turkish leader's bilateral meetings following the Black Sea summit here.

Presidents Discuss Conflict in Dniester Region

Reach Agreement on Fundamental Issues

*LD2506175792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1735 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Yalchin Ali-Zade and Vladimir Malyshev]

[Text] Istanbul, 25 Jun—"We have agreed on fundamental questions," stated Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk after the meeting of the leaders of Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania, which was held here this evening to discuss the situation in the Dniester region. The main question, he noted, is the disengagement of the two sides. After the meeting, the presidents of Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania made brief statements, each in his own language. Russian President Boris Yeltsin has not made a statement.

The conference of the presidents on the situation in the Dniester region took place in Istanbul following the summit on economic cooperation among the countries of the Black Sea basin.

Cease-Fire Communique Adopted

*LD2506221692 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 2000 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpts] This evening quadripartite talks on the Dniester region were held in the Turkish capital. The presidents adopted a joint communique in which they proposed an immediate cease-fire, the beginning of separating the conflicting sides, and the creation of

security zones and corridors. The status of the 14th Army will be determined in the near future at Russo-Moldavian consultations. The presidents also appealed to the Moldovan Parliament to resolve the question of the status of the Dniester region.

The details of the results of the meeting will be known later, but now we have the opportunity to present the opinions of the sides before the adoption of this document. Gennadiy Burbulis stated that Moscow is ready to use economic pressure to force Moldova to grant autonomy to the Dniester region. Igor Smirnov, president of the Dniester Moldavian Republic, declared that the only way out of the crisis is the recognition of the republic's independence, and that the former idea of federalization has ceased to be topical.

Smirnov stressed that talks on the situation on the Left Bank without the participation of its representatives are condemned to failure and expressed bafflement at Romania's participation in them.

The Moldovan president noted that the provocateurs are not calming down and this could lead to a disruption of any possible accords. Mircea Snegur expressed confidence that the quadripartite talks will bring new ideas capable of ending military actions. [passage omitted]

Ion Iliescu stated today that Romania considers the root problem of the conflict to be the Russian Army's presence on Moldovan territory, and that Romania will support the legal structures of authority in Chisinau in everything as before.

Communique Detailed

*LD2606110592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1033 GMT 26 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Yalchin Ali-Zade and Vladimir Malyshev]

[Text] Istanbul June 26 TASS—A communique on the Thursday [25 June] meeting of the presidents of Moldova, Russia, Romania and Ukraine on problems dealing with the conflict in the left-bank areas of the Republic of Moldova was circulated here on Thursday [25 June] night. It suggests that the warring sides stop fire immediately and unconditionally along the whole of the confrontation line.

According to the communique, 24 hours after the cease-fire comes into effect the sides should begin the disengagement of their armed units. The communique points to the need for creating security zones and corridors for the free traffic of the civilian population and the medical personnel and for bringing humanitarian aid to the war-stricken areas. These measures will be carried out through a parliamentary commission, made up of representatives of both sides.

The sides decided to analyse the problem of disengagement forces, the communique says. The neutrality of the 14th Army is being ensured. The status of the Army, the

date and order of its withdrawal will be determined at the talks between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Moldova, which will begin soon.

The presidents suggested that the Moldovan parliament discuss and settle the problem of the status of the left-bank regions of Moldova. The four presidents found it necessary to appeal to the CSCE steering bodies to promote actively the settlement of the conflict. They will also welcome a more active peace-making role of the United Nations organisation in the political settlement process.

UN To Monitor Cease-Fire

LD2606125892

[Editorial Report] Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian at 1140 GMT on 26 June carries a Moscow-dated report of approximately 800 words on the Dniester conflict and an accord reached on the conflict by the Russian, Ukrainian, Moldovan, and Romanian presidents at a summit in Istanbul on 25 June.

In addition to details on the conflict, ITAR-TASS notes: "News agency reports from the conflict zone cite the Moldovan president as saying that the Istanbul accord provides for a separation of the warring sides, which will be monitored by UN observers who are due to arrive in the Dniester region at the end of this week. This was also confirmed by Boris Yeltsin, who said on his arrival in Moscow this morning that although the positions of the sides do not coincide as far as everything is concerned, a number of measures were worked out in Istanbul, measures that make it possible to hope that there will be a cease-fire. The Russian president noted that the main thing now is to separate the warring sides. A specially set up expert group has been instructed to put the finishing touches to the relevant documents on this problem and to submit them to the heads of states so that consensus is arrived at and to make them public by means of a communique."

Turkish, Bulgarian Reportage on Black Sea Summit

WA2606110892

For Turkish and Bulgarian reportage on the Black Sea economic summit under way in Istanbul, including speeches by Russian President Yeltsin, Armenian President Ter-Petrosyan, Georgian State Council Chairman Shevardnadze, Ukrainian President Kravchuk, Azerbaijani President Elchibey, and Moldovan President Snegur, see the International Affairs section of the 26 June West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

First World Tatar Congress Opens in Kazan 19 Jun

OW1906152692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1433 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The 1st world congress of Tatars has opened today, Friday, in Kazan. Greetings have come from Russia's President Boris Yeltsin who noted the noble aims of the congress "at the cultural and ethnic consolidation of the Tatars and affirmation of their national consciousness".

B. Yeltsin expressed confidence that the leading factor for their national revival is in strengthening the historic, social, and human ties with the Russian people, also with all other nationalities of the Russian Federation and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

B. Yeltsin hopes that Tatarstan should achieve its sovereignty in a civilized way, and the current congress should contribute to solving that nation's problems and to keeping peace in Tatarstan and the Russian Federation.

The delegates were addressed by the Tatar President Minimer Shaymiev.

Speaking on the progress towards sovereign Tatarstan M. Shaymiev noted that the republic's present status defined by popular vote forms the basis of its constitution. He rejected both keeping Tatarstan as an autonomy within the Russian Federation and also severing all relations with it. He said the law of the Russian Federation did not fully comply with democracy and federalism, which prevented Tatarstan from signing the federative treaty.

Executive Committee Meeting Held

LD2406165192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1436 GMT 24 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Sorokin]

[Text] Kazan June 24 TASS—The first organizational session of the Executive Committee of the World Tatar Congress was held in Kazan today. An associate member of the Tatarstan Academy of Sciences, Indus Tagirov, was elected its chairman.

"The forum achieved its aims," President Mintimer Shaymiyev of Tatarstan said during the session. "For the first time in centuries representatives of republics, member-countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and other countries assembled on the ancient land of our ancestors. The main task of the Executive Committee is to assist in social, economic and cultural development of Tatarstan, and to satisfy spiritual needs of Tatars living outside the republic," he said.

The committee will work out and put into action complex programmes in the spheres of language, science, education and culture, organize the publication of newspapers and magazines and prepare television and radio programmes. State bodies of Tatarstan will extend all possible assistance to the committee, the president assured.

Relations Proposed With Azerbaijan

*LD2206183692 Moscow Programma Radio Odin
Network in Russian 0730 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Text] Vice President of Tatarstan Vasiliy Likhachev said that relations between Azerbaijan and Tatarstan must be placed on an interstate footing. He disclosed that a treaty to this effect has already been prepared. Likhachev was addressing one of the sections of the world Tatar congress which is taking place in Tatarstan.

Murshut Mamedov, head of the Azerbaijani delegation and member of the National Majlis within the republican parliament, declared that Azerbaijan's leadership is prepared to build relations with Tatarstan on an interstate level and has already proposed its own version of the treaty.

Creation of Diplomatic Corps Planned

*LD2106124392 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English
1013 GMT 21 Jun 92*

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Kazan—20 countries confirmed the readiness to open shortly their representation offices in the Tatarstan capital.

This was said by the republic's Vice-President Vasiliy Likhachev on June 20 at the section meeting diplomacy and international connections of Tatarstan. He also said that the accord was reached to open in Kazan a representation office of the RF [Russian Federation] Interior Ministry.

Vasiliy Likhachev confirmed the intention of Tatarstan to create its own diplomatic corp. According to him, there are specialists in the republic with good command of foreign languages and experience of work abroad. Besides, there exists and is being implemented a program of training cadres for diplomatic and foreign economic activity. In Kazan State University a group is formed of jurists of international law. Managers and other specialists in the field of business are being trained in Kazan institutes of chemistry and technology, aviation and financial and economics. There are contracts on sending specialists to practice abroad. Vasiliy Likhachev said that Tatarstan thanks to its geo-political situation is

nothing more than Euro-Asian state, and so it can have a very important role in the world—a role of bridge between Europe and Asia. The prospects of the republic's development depend much on it.

Eurasian Humanitarian Forum Opens in Moscow

*LD2506204492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1719 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—The Eurasian Humanitarian Forum opened today in Moscow. The forum will discuss the doctrine of "a new world micro order, which should stand in the way of internecine dissensions, wars and interethnic conflicts." Taking part in the forum are representatives from over 100 organizations working in all social directions—economy, politics, culture and religion—from the CIS states and the West.

The forum was initiated by the so-called Blue Movement "towards social ecology of mankind", the Republican Humanitarian Party and the UN Information Centre in Moscow.

"The idea of the forum as a permanent organization came in October 1991 during a round-table conference on human dimensions held in Moscow," the general secretary and the chairman of the republican party Yuriy Bokon told ITAR-TASS. "Many of its participants are present in today's meeting. Concerned by the fact that in many areas of the world enmity is on the rise, human rights are being violated, and Eurasia is becoming an epicentre of these incidents, we think that under such conditions the wish to stop the confrontation alone is insufficient. We made an appeal to all communities, parliaments and governments of the region calling them to make joint efforts for the creation of Eurasian humanitarian space, where interests of the individual will be given a priority," he said.

The forum will last three days. "It is not a scientific seminar," that is why it will consider about 20 programs, including ecological, "Eurasia-3000" investment fund", "free intellect", "Russian-Japanese cultural and commercial center", "aid to Chernobyl disaster victims" and others, participants of the forum emphasised.

Baltics Army Units Can Retaliate If Attacked

*LD2506153592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1420 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Text] Riga, 25 Jun (ITAR-TASS)—In the case of an armed attack on military units, servicemen and members of their families in the Baltic countries and commanders of army subunits have been given instructions to take appropriate measures, including firing at the attackers. This is contained in the statement of the Command of the Northwestern Group of Forces which has been sent to the heads of the Baltic Republics.

The statement says that these are the requirements contained in the decision of the Russian Government "on measures for stopping illegal actions against the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation." Hope is expressed in the Command statement that the heads of the Baltic Republics will not permit displays of anti-army feelings and will inform the public of the Russian Government's decision.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 26 Jun

*LD2606054392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0432 GMT 26 Jun 92*

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, June 26 TASS—The press highlights the situation in the hotbeds of tension—the Dniester region, Georgia, South Ossetia and Nagorno-Karabakh. Newspapers report a meeting of the presidents of Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Romania to discuss the situation in the Dniester region, held in Istanbul after a one-day summit on economic cooperation of countries of the Black Sea basin, which took place in the Turkish capital.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA points out that participants in the meeting welcomed the idea, put forward by President Yeltsin as the main proposal, to create a mechanism ensuring a long-term and flexible settlement of problems in the main spheres of cooperation in the Black Sea region.

At the same time, it writes: "the proposal formulated by Eduard Shevardnadze, a master of international diplomacy, to freeze for a period of five years any revision of state borders in that region and to bring down naval activity of the Black Sea countries was of no smaller importance. Many people believe it was even more impressive by its scope." "At present it is rather difficult to say whether or not the economic cooperation of the Black Sea countries will be viable. But it is clear already who is beginning to play first fiddle: the existing situation is bringing Ankara to the limelight, which is operating actively practically in all the directions," KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA writes in this connection.

The press continues to publish materials about the recent summit in Dagomys, northern Caucasus. NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA carries fragments of the Russian-Ukrainian agreement on a further development of interstate relations, as well as President Kravchuk's assessment of the results of the meeting.

"Tatarstan may be a sovereign state associated with Russia. In other words, it will delegate part of the prerogatives to it on the basis of a treaty," Tatar President Mintimer Shaymiyev said in an interview with NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. He stressed that he did not rule out a possibility of recording it in the Tatar constitution on condition that Russia will do the same and will make corresponding amendments to its fundamental law. In his opinion, this could be a "quite civilized form of relations for the future." Touching upon a possibility of concluding a treaty with some other foreign country before settling relations with Russia, he said: "we are not considering it now, we should settle relations with Russia."

"Russia will not be the first to take to the path of estrangement from the rest of the CIS member states," KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA writes, commenting on the problem of state borders between former Union republics and the creation of Russian frontier guard troops.

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA carries the presidential decrees "On the Order of Publishing and Coming Into Force of Legal Acts of the Russian President and Government," "On Some Measures To Put Into Effect the Russian President's Decree on the Freedom of Trade," as well as the resolution of the Russian Government "On Strengthening Interior Ministry Agencies of the Russian Federation." The newspaper continues to publish classified materials of the CPSU Central Committee under the heading "From the Staraya Square Archives." They prove the connections between the Soviet Communist Party and the State Security Committee (KGB).

"We are a purely apparatus structure," Aleksandr Kotenkov, head of the State Legal Department of the Russian Federation, said in an interview with NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. He pointed out that one of the main tasks of the department was to see to it that official documents correspond to the existing legislation and the reform course. According to Kotenkov, official documents need careful examination, because they often contain contradictions and are at variance with the laws adopted earlier.

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA carries fragments of a report of the expert institute, working for the Russian Union of Industrial Managers and Entrepreneurs, which deals with the functioning of Russian enterprises in conditions of a crisis.

Specialists from the Byelarusian university conducted a public opinion poll which showed that 49.7 per cent of the polled blame the former party apparatus for the

current crisis. KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA carries the results of the public opinion poll.

The crime situation continues to be complicated in the Russian Federation, Aslanbek Aslakhanov, chairman of the parliamentary committee for legality, law and order and anti-crime struggle, said in an interview with ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA. The crime rate continues to grow by leaps and bounds. According to forecasts of specialists from the Russian Interior Ministry, it will reach the level of four million crimes a year by the end of 1995.

Weekly INTERFAX 'Trade & Investment' News OW2606002592

[Editorial Report] Moscow INTERFAX in English, as received via Tokyo Kyodo at 1744 GMT on 25 June, carries its weekly "Trade & Investment" feature. The following items concerning international investment are carried within the "Headline News" section of the weekly feature:

Eight CIS States Introduce Uniform Customs Tariff

Eight former Soviet republics—Russia, Byelorussia, Armenia, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan—will shortly introduce a single customs tariff and a single classification of products for foreign-trade purposes. A corresponding document has been signed by the CIS's working group in Minsk.

At the request of Byelorussia, the working group considered uniform rules regulating the passage of citizens' private property across the border.

Canada To Help Russia Convert its Defense Industry

One of the results of President Yeltsin's visit to Canada was the signing of a joint declaration on cooperation in converting Russia's defense industry.

The document provides for investments in the following areas: storage of farm products; housing construction; energy conservation; safety of nuclear power installations and environmental protection; telecommunications; equipment for urban transportation systems; technologies and services adapted to climatic conditions in northern Russia; utilization of spacecraft to develop new materials, create advanced technologies and explore natural resources.

The Russian Government pledged to create a favorable environment for foreign investments in the sectors undergoing conversion. Canada will also be encouraging local companies to invest in Russia.

Cotton Mills in Moscow Region May Come To Standstill Next Month

The Mostex concern is considering halting production at cotton mills in the Moscow Region on July 1. According to the head of the Light and Textile Industry Workers'

Trade Union Tatiana Sosnina, the reason for this is the management's reluctance to pile up debts.

For this same reason, traders refuse to pay textile producers for already delivered goods.

The majority of textile workers in the Moscow Region will have to go on "unpaid leaves".

Trade union sources say 70% of the industry's enterprises are standing idle, primarily due to the absence of raw materials. Most of them are located in Tvanovo Region.

Russian Exporters May Face Anti-Dumping Legislation

The Commission of European Communities initiated anti-dumping proceedings last week against Russian exporters of ferroalloys to the EC. The export of this commodity is estimated to reach \$25-30M a year.

Russian sources close to the EC say that this step is "almost sure" to be followed by a similar move with respect to uranium exports.

The US is also planning to impose anti-dumping duties on uranium exports from Russia.

If taken, these anti-dumping measures, as well as earlier restrictions on sales of iron, aluminium and some nitrogen fertilizers to the EC, will cost Russia approximately \$3 bn [billion] a year in lost export revenues.

In an interview with INTERFAX, a government expert said that although western countries are making lot of noises about their readiness to provide technical and financial assistance to Russia, they are restricting its opportunities to earn money itself. The expert was also extremely skeptical about the plans of Mr. Gaydar's government to scrap export licences and quotas in the nearest future, which, he said, will lead to "further increases in wildcat sales of Russian goods abroad".

Azerbaijan Establishes Currency Fund

The government of Azerbaijan has decreed the creation of a single foreign exchange fund of the republic. It will be used to set up specialized funds for buying grain and stabilizing the economy.

The currency fund is to accumulate deductions made from foreign exchange revenues of exporter enterprises irrespective of their form of ownership. The percentage of currency earnings to be obligatorily sold to the state, as well as exemptions from these sales under international production cooperation are to be determined within a month's time.

The National Bank, jointly with the Finance Ministry and the International Bank of Azerbaijan, are to draw up procedures for the mandatory sales of foreign exchange by enterprises and set the exchange rate for these sales.

Exporter enterprises are required to deposit their foreign exchange earnings in their accounts in the International

Bank or in Azerbaijan's banks licensed to conduct currency transactions. Those enterprises which have foreign exchange deposits abroad, but do not have appropriate permission by the International Bank, are to transfer these funds to the republic's authorized banks within three weeks of the coming into force of the government's decree (June 15).

The Finance Ministry, International Bank and a specially created Foreign Exchange Commission are to ensure that all appropriate sums of foreign exchange are timely surrendered by exporter enterprises to the budget. In addition to that, all exporter enterprises are to present to the republic's customs authorities and the Finance Ministry a declaration evidencing registration of each currency transaction by an authorized bank.

Enterprises which violate the above procedures are subject to fines amounting to the concealed sum of foreign exchange revenues, with the fines accruing the central currency fund of the republic. The Justice and Finance Ministries are requested to draw up a system of other sanctions applicable to violators of the decree.

Moldova Strengthens Foreign Trade Monopoly

Moldova's government has compiled a list of goods and services whose export and import are a monopoly of the state. These goods and services are to be exported for hard currency only, with the revenues used to create the currency fund of the republic. One of the immediate objectives is to enable Moldova by September 1 to contribute the \$72.4 m membership fee to the IMF.

The list of goods and services is set out in the Moldovan Government's decree on measures to regulate export and import activities. The decree provides that goods for export will be procured by the state by imposing a tax in kind on producers. In the case of goods on which the tax cannot be levied, it will be replaced by crediting a certain sum in foreign exchange to exporters' accounts, payable to the government. The decree also specifies that all goods exported out of Moldova, except those supplied to the ruble area, are to be licensed.

Estonia's National Privatization Agency

Estonia's assistant economics minister Jandres Bergman says the government plans to create a national privatization agency—Eesti Erastamisettevõte. The new agency, which is to start operations in the next few months, will be in charge of privatizing and reorganizing state property.

It will be similar to Germany's Treuhandanstalt which is engaged in the privatization of state property in eastern

Germany. A Treuhandanstalt official, Wolfgang Scaaf, is now in Tallinn to consult local experts.

Russian Parliament Passes Law on Monetary System

The Russian parliament has passed a law on the monetary system which will take effect on July 1. The law states that official exchange rates of the ruble against other currencies will be determined and published every week by the Central Bank of Russia. The official gold content of the ruble will not be established. The ruble may be used as the monetary unit of other states according to bilateral agreements with Russia.

The law grants the Central Bank of Russia the exclusive right to issue money. The bank also has the right to confiscate illegally issued money, withdraw licenses for banking operations, and initiate legal or administrative proceedings against legal entities or individuals violating the legislation in force.

Turkmenistan Moves To Prevent Illegal Exports of Snake Venom and Liquorice Turkmenistan's President Saparmurad Niyazov has issued a decree on preventing illegal production and export of pharmaceutical raw materials: snake venom and liquorice. The production association Turkmenmerdan will now be responsible for procurement and export of these materials, as well as for catching poisonous snakes.

The association manager Murad Karyev told IF [INTERFAX] that 10,000 to 12,000 tons of liquorice are annually produced in the country. He refused the disclosure how much venom is collected as this could attract poachers.

According to the deputy chairman of the state customs service Hoshgeldy Seidov, no attempts to smuggle liquorice or snake venom out of Turkmenistan have been registered since the customs service was set up last November.

Foreign Trade Ministry To Reassign Unused Export Quotas

The export quotas for deliveries of goods under inter-governmental agreements, which for some reason are not fulfilled by exporter enterprises, will be withdrawn and auctioned off by Russia's Ministry for External Economic Ties. The reassignment of quotas will be carried out by the ministry in a quarterly basis. All enterprises registered in Russia, irrespective of their ownership arrangements, will have the right to bid at these auctions.

The right to re-sell quotas was granted to Russia by government decree No. 396 dated as of June 14 1992 and will apply to all quotas set by the ministry after June 14 in addition to quotas of regions and specific enterprises.

International Affairs**Yeltsin, Kravchuk Reach 'Refreshing' Accord**

PM2606093392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
25 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Valeriy Vyzhutovich report: "Yeltsin and Kravchuk Ready for Joint Action"]

[Text] The considerable satisfaction with the results of the Russian-Ukrainian summit meeting expressed by Yeltsin and Kravchuk at the press conference in Dagomys does not seem to be a tribute to the diplomatic protocol that prescribes a brave face for assessing the results of a sorry business.

"I place a high value on the agreement that has been signed," the Russian president noted. "Today we all know," the Ukrainian president stated in turn, "that the Dagomys agreement marks the start of a radical turn-around in relations between two great states, a turn-around that should bring our relations to a full-blooded and equal interstate level."

Against the background of what is happening in the Dniester region, South Ossetia, and Nagorno-Karabakh, the results of the Russian-Ukrainian meeting inject a certain measure of calm: Although here, in the relations between the two major Slav states which in many ways determine the future of the entire Commonwealth, a positive breakthrough has emerged. It is perfectly clear that the joint actions of Ukraine and Russia in regards to the basic domestic and international questions, on which agreement has been reached in Dagomys, will substantially affect events in the former Union republics. Their readiness to contemplate joint efforts and actions to eliminate interethnic conflicts in areas that affect the interests of both states has already been demonstrated. On 25 June in Istanbul, the presidents of Russia and Ukraine, and also the leadership of Moldova and Romania, will discuss the problem of the Dniester region on which Yeltsin and Kravchuk, it seems, have formulated a unified viewpoint. Admittedly it is unclear at the moment whether the voice of the Ukrainian leader will sound in unison with the Russian leader's drastic warning to Snegur or whether, on the contrary, Kravchuk has managed to soften Yeltsin's position in relation to Moldova. According to Kravchuk, Ukraine now supports the Dniester region's right to be an autonomous republic within Moldova in accordance with the expression of will of its people, but if Moldova joins Romania, it has the right to decide its own future.

The unexpected and major step forward by the Russian and Ukrainian presidents in the Black Sea Fleet talks could also make people breathe more easily by virtue of its being a sensible compromise: The Ukrainian and Russian fleets will be established on the basis of the Black Sea Fleet, and the strategic part will go to the CIS. In regards to the Crimean issue, which they decided not to talk about in Dagomys, this could be the first step on the road to declaring a moratorium and postponing a

discussion of Crimea's future until better times. This is particularly important now when the Crimean and Ukrainian parliaments, working together, are looking for a way to bring Kiev and Simferopol closer together and establish normal relations that are regulated in legislative terms.

The sudden and fairly abrupt warming of relations between Ukraine and Russia has probably been prompted not so much by the Sochi heat as by the desire to join together to face the threat posed by regional wars that are currently on the point of dragging absolutely everybody into total conflict. The declared mutual resoluteness to defend democracy and follow a course of radical political and economic reforms has been provoked primarily by the growth and consolidation of neocommunist and extremist forces in both states.

However, whatever the reasons that have prompted Ukraine and Russia to sign the extremely promising Agreement on Developing Interstate Relations, many people will find it refreshing that these two neighbors have come together at the height of the current torrid political summer.

Comparison of Russian-Ukrainian Agreement CM2506154292

Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian on 25 June carries in its First Edition on page 5 carries ITAR-TASS report on the text of the Russo-Ukrainian agreement signed in Dagomys on 23 June. The ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA item, carried under the "Official Department" rubric and the headline "Agreement Between the Russian Federation and Ukraine on the Further Development of Interstate Relations," has been compared with the Moscow ITAR-TASS Russian version published in the 24 June Central Eurasia DAILY REPORT, page 8-9, revealing the following variations:

Page 8, column two, fifth paragraph, sole sentence reads: ...to strengthen friendly, equal partnership ties based...both states and their responsibility for further.... (rewording)

Page 8, column two, sixth paragraph, first sentence reads: ...up a new full-scale political treaty that would reflect the new.... (rewording)

Same paragraph, last sentence reads: ...the subsequent Ukrainian-Russian accords....(rewording)

Page 8, column two, seventh paragraph, sole sentence reads: ...threat from the revanchist antidemocratic forces both.... (adding word)

Page 8, column two, last paragraph, first sentence reads: For clearing debts that emerge, the sides will.... (adding words)

Page 9, column one, first complete paragraph, first sentence reads: ...and economic and cooperation relations, including relations.... (rewording)

Page 9, column one, third paragraph, sole sentence reads: ...coordinated mechanism for servicing the internal debt.... (rewording)

Page 9, column one, sixth paragraph, sole sentence reads: ...claims, they will nonetheless conclude a corresponding....(adding word)

Page 10, column two, second paragraph, second sentence reads: ...material and technical backup. The sides agreed.... (rewording)

Further on Ossetian Talks With Shevardnadze

Officials Agree on Measures

AU2406203092 Paris AFP in English
1841 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Sochi, Russia, June 24 (AFP)—Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze announced here Wednesday [24 June] they had signed an accord outlining steps to halt the violent conflict in South Ossetia.

"The blood will flow no longer, that is the most important thing," Yeltsin said after the talks, held in a dacha near this Russian Black Sea resort.

The agreement signed by the two leaders called for creating a special "control commission" and a joint unit of buffer troops to be deployed along the length of the border between South Ossetia and Georgia, Yeltsin said.

It also calls for a ceasefire to go into effect by Sunday [28 June] in the conflict which has killed hundreds of people in the past three years.

"I must say I am satisfied with the result," Shevardnadze told reporters afterwards.

"We have signed a document on principles for resolving the situation which contains not only general principles but concrete aspects," the Georgian leader added.

No further details on the contents of the agreement were immediately available.

Shortly after the accord was signed, Yeltsin left for Istanbul but Shevardnadze remained behind to continue talks with Russian Vice-President Aleksander Rutskoy and representatives of North Ossetia and South Ossetia.

The accord was between Georgia and Russia but representatives of the two Ossetias were also present at the signing.

Yeltsin said the agreement could not be described as "comprehensive" but added that he and Shevardnadze had also agreed to prepare over the coming month "a large political treaty" between Russia and Georgia.

"We have to think whether we're going to lose or whether we want to gain at least something," Yeltsin said. "If we win at least something, fewer people will die."

North Ossetia, which is part of the Russian Federation, was represented at the talks by the leader of its parliament, Arsalbek Galazov, and South Ossetia, which is part of Georgia, by his counterpart, Thorez Kulumbekov.

Galazov praised the accord but stated that the meeting between Yeltsin and Shevardnadze, who has worked to secure a ceasefire in South Ossetia since he took over as Georgian leader in March, "certainly did not please certain political forces."

Shevardnadze also said that violence in the Georgian capital earlier Wednesday [24 June] had probably been orchestrated by forces opposed to his efforts to improve relations with Russia and resolve the conflict in South Ossetia.

Georgian militants involved in the fighting oppose South Ossetia's campaign to unite with North Ossetia.

Cease-Fire Agreement Outlined

LD2506123792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1000 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] The NEGA agency reports that a quadripartite agreement on a settlement to the Ossetian-Georgian conflict has been signed by Russian President Boris Yeltsin; Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the State Council of Georgia; Akhsarbek Galazov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Northern Ossetia; and Toretz Kulumbekov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of South Ossetia.

A cease-fire is envisaged in the conflict area on 28 June, and the withdrawal of all the armed formations from the conflict zone before 1 July. Over a period of 20 days from the date on which the troop withdrawal starts, it has been decided to set up a 20-km separation zone and to form a joint quadripartite military formation similar to the UN peacekeeping forces.

Shevardnadze 'Pleased' With Talks

LD2506150392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1400 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Before departing Dagomys for Istanbul by air, Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze stated that he is pleased with his meeting and talks with President Yeltsin. During the talks devoted to settling the conflict in Tskhinvali, the sides agreed on a ceasefire, on setting up a monitoring mechanism, and on setting up a corridor to keep the sides apart.

According to Shevardnadze, diplomatic relations between Russia and Georgia will be established by the end of the month.

Further on Communiqué

LD2606052192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 0400 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Text] Georgia and Russia recognize each other's territorial integrity, the inviolability of each other's borders, and have no territorial claims on each other, the political communiqué signed in Dagomys by Shevardnadze and Yeltsin, the leaders of the two countries, says.

The document stresses that Russia and Georgia pledge to resolve exclusively by peaceful means questions which arise. The communiqué notes that, as a sign of good will, Boris Yeltsin made a decision to continue the supply of gas to Georgia.

The INTERFAX agency recalls that the gas pipeline was closed a month ago on the territory of North Ossetia in connection with the decision by the parliament of this republic to declare an economic blockade of Georgia.

Refugees Continue To Leave South Ossetia

PM2306121792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Ali Kazikhanov: "Flood of Refugees from South Ossetia Not Abating"]

[Text] Vladikavkaz—Every day 1,200 South Ossetian refugees are arriving in Vladikavkaz. All the sanatoriums and hostels are overflowing in the North Ossetian capital. The flood of refugees is not abating.

In the past two weeks alone over 14,000 women, old men, and children have arrived here from Tskhinvali. G. Cherchesov, deputy chairman of the North Ossetian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet, has announced that aid from Russia is reaching North Ossetia. The local inhabitants are collecting household items for the refugees. A tent city is spreading in Vladikavkaz. It is true, G. Cherchesov told me, that the city is for 2,500 people, and we are already suffocating....

Like many people in North Ossetia with whom I talked, the deputy chairman of the North Ossetian SSR Supreme Soviet welcomed, with satisfaction, the statement by the Russian Government and vice president. "It is true that it is somewhat belated, albeit necessary"—that is the opinion of S. Sikoyev, North Ossetian SSR deputy minister of internal affairs and commandant of the state of emergency region of the city of Vladikavkaz, who had made an appeal in the press for support for these statements. "However, unless Russia supports them with specific actions, the situation will not improve. It is essential to bring troops into Tskhinvali but on a peace mission. We no longer have any hopes of the Georgian State Council. Shevardnadze says that the gunmen are not under the control of the Georgian Government, but as soon as the Tskhinvali regiment helicopters returned strike for strike, he stated that there was an act of Russian aggression. There is no logic."

Vladikavkaz was also critical of that part of A. Rutskoy's statement, which speaks of the order to the troops to defend military establishments and the families of the servicemen. "Why has the vice president forgotten the civilian population which is the prime target of violence and genocide?" ask many of those with whom I talked.

Chechniya has also reacted to the Georgian events. President D. Dudayev has issued a statement. M. Udugov, Chechen Republic minister of the press and information, has reported that the Chechnya president said that "he had predicted Russia's actions in Georgia and South Ossetia back in January, when the military junta was established in Tbilisi. Recent events shed light on Russia's participation in the military coup in Georgia."

The situation in North Ossetia is under control. According to a report from the North Ossetian SSR minister of internal affairs, weapons and ammunition are being confiscated. The number of violators of the state of emergency regime is declining.

South Ossetians Picket White House 25 Jun

LD2506125292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1100 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] According to a RIKa agency report, a group of South Ossetian citizens picketed Russia's White House in Moscow today. They carried slogans such as "Russia, do not betray Ossetia," and "The death of Ossetia is the beginning of the extermination of ethnic minorities."

Russian Federation People's Deputy Viktor Dedekayev told the RIKa agency that the Russian parliament must demand that combat actions in South Ossetia be halted without delay. Genocide against a nation is impermissible, he stressed.

Meanwhile, the South Ossetian Information Committee states that Tskhinvali and neighboring villages are still coming under fire from various types of weapons. Two people have died and eight others have been wounded by the explosions of mines and missiles, and by sniper fire. For a third day in a row the population has been forced to hide in basements and shelters. Life in Tskhinvali is paralyzed. Only a quarter of the population remains in the town; the others have taken refuge elsewhere.

Khasbulatov on Settlement of Dniester Conflict

LD2506123492 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English
0933 GMT 25 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Moscow—The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov: A portion of peaceful settlement of Dniester conflict—granting Dniester autonomy within Moldova—was proposed in Dagomys.

24 June, Ruslan Khasbulatov further stated to PF [POSTFACTUM] that 25 June the presidents of Russia, Ukraine and Moldova would meet in Istanbul to discuss

this portion. He feels that the reaction of Moldova's administration to the uniform policy of Russia and Ukraine on the Dniester conflict will be positive if, naturally, Moldova does not decide to join another state. In that event, our policy stand must undergo certain qualitative changes.

The chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation further stated that to date he had no information on the outcome of the meeting of the Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin and the Chairman of the Council of State of Georgia Edward Shevardnadze, which took place directly after his departure from Dagomys. It is in the interests of both, Georgia and Russia, to find the solution of the problem. Shevardnadze is an experienced diplomat and a statesman and he ought to realize that Georgia ought to be just as interested in correctly understanding our position and finding the common language as it is necessary to us.

I believe that, if Shevardnadze and his supporters wish to kill people, in that event, they can, naturally, act in their manner. But who has been granted the right to kill people with immunity? We have no other claims on Georgia, Russian Khasbulatov stated.

On the chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation information, nearly 140,000 refugees have already gathered in North Ossetia. The political and criminal situation in North Ossetia is further exacerbated, in his opinion, by the financial problems as well. Our financial resources are not unlimited. We have expended nearly one billion roubles on the refugees, who are, in fact, the citizens of Georgia. Our own people are not too well-off in order to shoulder these burdens on top of their own, Russian Khasbulatov stated.

14th Army To Remain in Dniester

OW2506155792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1454 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Thursday [25 June], Chairman of the State Commission for the Formation of the Russian Armed Forces Dmitry Volkogonov told IF [INTERFAX] that in the near future the 14th Army will not be removed from the Dniester region for two reasons: First, there is no place to accommodate the personnel and, second, the presence of the 14th Army is a stabilizing factor in this region, however far-fetched this argument may sound.

Volkogonov said that he was categorically against Russian armed forces in any ethnic conflicts. He noted at the same time that the Russian Federation must not act from the position of weakness. He believes that in cases of emergency, by decision of Russia's Security Council, the Russian president may use the army for protecting civilians.

PRAVDA Staffers Protest Moldovan Ban

PM2506141592 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
25 Jun 92 p 1

[Message from PRAVDA staffers: "Mr. Snegur Sees Only His Truth"]

[Text] Once again, not for the first time, the printing of our newspaper is being stopped in Chisinau. A cable has arrived from Moldova: "By order of the Moldovan Communications Ministry and director of the 'Universal' publishing house, printing of the newspapers PRAVDA and RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA is suspended 24 June because of the publication of material which does not correspond to the truth."

We want to warn the gentlemen managers that your actions are contrary to all international agreements and treaties. On behalf of our subscribers in Moldova we request the republic Supreme Court to appraise the illegal actions of the Communications Ministry and publishing house and to assess the material and moral damage inflicted on the editorial office and our readers.

The reader can see what the truth is in the photographs of the war.

[Signed] PRAVDA staffers

Yeltsin Returns, Comments on Black Sea Meetings

LD2606041792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 0300 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Interview with Boris Yeltsin, president of Russia, on results of the conference of the Black Sea Zone, at the Vnukovo II airport; from the "Utro" program—recorded]

[Text] [Utro announcer] And now for the point of view of President Boris Yeltsin of Russia on some topical questions of our day.

[Unidentified correspondent] President Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin of Russia, returning from Istanbul, where a conference of the heads of 11 states of the Black Sea zone was held, landed at Vnukovo II last night.

How realistic, in the contemporary situation, is it to expect that the documents on the Black Sea region which were signed at this meeting will be implemented?

[Yeltsin] Well, it isn't a political document, it is an economic one, and, therefore, all 11 heads of states of the Black Sea basin signed it in concert, since, on the whole, an economic basis is there, and absolutely all are interested in that.

It is another matter that we hold politically different views and that there are even, so to speak, opposing sides, at the same time. Nonetheless, they signed one document. Nonetheless, they signed the same page, on

the whole, of 10 documents, or even 11. Therefore, of course, from the economic point of view, that is a great benefit for us.

[Second unidentified correspondent] Military specialists, including Russian specialists, do not deny that the concentration of arms, armored vehicles, and Moldovan troops on the Left Bank, on the frontier with the Left Bank, may signify preparations for a large-scale offensive. What can you say about this after the meeting in Istanbul?

[Yeltsin] A quadripartite meeting was held, between the four presidents of Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania; of course, not within the framework of the Istanbul conference for signing a declaration on Black Sea economic cooperation. We exchanged opinions in quite some detail. However, our positions did not agree on everything. Nevertheless we elaborated a series of measures on how to stop the firing, the most important thing, on how to separate the forces, and so on.

We stayed there, and especially instructed groups have begun to work on a document to be agreed upon later by the presidents and made public, accordingly. That will be in the form of a communique, so I do not expect any escalation there now. On the contrary, for it has been rather calm there for the third day now in comparison with previous periods.

[Second correspondent] Boris Nikolayevich, what did you and Shevardnadze agree upon and, the second question right away, alarming reports have come in from Ossetia today—battles are under way there. Your opinion and your forecast?

[Yeltsin] Yes, we met the delegation of Eduard Shevardnadze in Sochi. There were representatives of North Ossetia and South Ossetia there. The talks were difficult. On the whole, I think we agreed on all the technical and organizational questions. We did not agree on one question, which, of course, may perhaps be the most important—on the status of South Ossetia, since South Ossetia, you know, well, wants to be an autonomous formation and well, Georgia does not agree with this and does not want to give it such independence. I think that these consultations should be continued.

On the whole, we took one step which should alleviate and improve the situation there, although not right away, not within the next 24 hours. We agreed that 1 July....

[Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, interrupting]—The 28th, Boris Nikolayevich.

[Yeltsin] The 28th of June, 28 June will be a decisive day in this respect. So I don't expect any worsening there. Let's take a look from 28 June onwards, I think that situation will improve, nonetheless.

Ministry 'Expected' To Lift U.S. Travel Curbs

PM2306160192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
24 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by Aleksandr Shalnev: "United States and Russia Lift Long-Standing Restrictions on Trips by Diplomats and Journalists"]

[Excerpt] Washington—The U.S. State Department has informed the Russian Foreign Ministry that it is prepared to immediately open all areas of American territory that for many decades have been regarded as closed to Soviet and then to Russian citizens.

The State Department is also prepared forthwith to do away with the system whereby Russian diplomats, trade representatives, military attache office staff, and journalists have not only to inform the U.S. authorities of any trip they make outside a 25-mile zone, but also to order tickets and make hotel reservations through a special State Department agency—the Office of Foreign Missions.

According to information from diplomatic sources, in a note sent via our embassy in Moscow, the State Department stresses, however, that the lifting of restrictions is possible only on the basis of reciprocity—if the restrictions affecting U.S. diplomats, journalists, trade representatives, and the military in Moscow are lifted simultaneously. This, incidentally, is the gist of one of the memoranda on mutual understanding signed during President Yeltsin's recent visit to Washington.

It is expected that our Foreign Ministry will agree almost instantly, perhaps even today, Tuesday, and then Russians working in America and Americans in Russia will have the freedom that the former were deprived of in the forties and the latter in the fifties. [passage omitted]

Intelligence, U.S. Publisher To Cooperate

LD2506012292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1646 GMT 24 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Fedyashin]

[Excerpts] Washington, 24 Jun—"Not a single intelligence service in the world ever opened its archives to anyone. In this respect, Russian foreign intelligence is no exception. Serious people working there, and the very claim by some people outside the former USSR that they have access to our archives to make films based on them or to write books gives rise to nothing but a smile. Here it can be only a question of the quite natural process of making public a number of documents that no longer have any operational value but are of historic interest." This was stated today at a news conference at the National Press Club in Washington by Yuriy Kobaladze, the chief of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service's bureau for public and media relations.

He arrived in the United States together with his colleague Oleg Tsarev, who is a consultant to the Russian

Foreign Intelligence Service's press bureau and a coauthor of some unique books on the history and operations of Soviet intelligence, in order to launch a project that is unique in Russo-American relations—the first-ever publication of five books about intelligence operations, based on documents of the former USSR KGB's foreign intelligence service and the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service. All these publications will be simultaneously issued by a Russian publishing house and will be available to Russian readers.

The Crown company will prepare and publish the books in the United States. It is a leading U.S. publishing firm and part of the Random House organization.

The topics of these publications will include the Cuban missile crisis, Soviet penetration of British intelligence and key state establishments, the Berlin operations of the KGB, the Trotsky case, and the history of Soviet intelligence as a whole.

The project was started during joint work on the book *Dangerous Illusions*, which is being prepared by Oleg Tsarev and (John Castello) and will be published by the Crown publishing house.

"Our service takes very thorough measures to preserve the integrity and confidentiality of its enormous archives," Yuriy Kobaladze said in a conversation with an ITAR-TASS correspondent. "Despite any reports in the press that certain people, claiming links with the KGB, are offering for sale state intelligence documents, the foreign intelligence archives are under reliable protection."

"Incidentally, the publication of a number of books by the Crown publishing house based on materials that were earlier absolutely restricted will help to depict history in a reliable way, and this is absolutely necessary for the further development of the world community on a civilized basis."

"The agreement concluded with Crown envisages that the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service will itself be carrying out the selection of materials in collaboration with the coauthors, and that the former will guarantee they are sufficient and reliable for publication," Oleg Tsarev added.

The first English publications will come out in 1993.

Joint U.S. Forum on Banking Opens in Moscow

LD2506202692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1525 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Petr Tsyrendorzhiev]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—It looks like the breakthrough in relations between Russia and the United States made during President Boris Yeltsin's official visit to the United States imparted a new impulse to the development of economic relations between the two countries.

Representatives of the biggest banking groups and corporations of the United States, including the financial empires of Morgan and Rockefeller, the ABM Corporation and others converged on Moscow to take part in the Russo-American banking forum, which opened today.

The focal point of the forum is reform of the finance and monetary system and the participation of foreign investors in the stabilization of the Russian economy. They are discussing forms and methods of enticing private investments which can help enliven the economy much faster than state credits, according to speakers in the forum.

Gaydar, IMF Official Issue Joint Statement

LD1906112492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0941 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Washington June 19 TASS—Russian Acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar and managing director of the International Monetary Fund Michel Camdessus issued a joint statement on Thursday [18 June], which said that Russia and the IMF agreed in principle on the main objectives of the economic reform.

Gaydar stated that "the Russian Government intends to further pursue a policy of structural reform and macro-economic stabilisation," which is in line, on the whole, with IMF recommendations, the statement said.

In his turn, Camdessus stressed that his conversations with Gaydar led to a better understanding of each other's stands. "This understanding will do much to help resolve the remaining problems, connected with taking specific measures (reforms). As a result of the discussions, the two sides consolidated their confidence in... a possibility to reach agreement in the near future on the programme, which may be supported by the IMF resources," he said.

The statement became the first official reaction of the IMF to the Russian president's appeal to soften the terms of granting the 24-billion-dollar credit to Moscow.

Speaking on Wednesday at a bilateral business conference, held in the U.S. capital, Yeltsin pointed out that the 24-billion-dollar credit was important not so much from the economic, as from the psychological point of view, because it would be an incentive for private investments in the Russian economy. The credit will become a sort of a guarantee for private business circles, which will start investing heavily in the Russian economy, and the sums will be running into hundreds, not tens of billions of dollars, the Russian leader stressed.

Minister Hopes For Support From G-7 Summit

OW2006143792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1406 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's Economics Minister Andrey Nechayev thinks that if Russia's economic policy finds support of the G-7 meeting in Munich, that should bolster its positions in talks with the IMF on credits. A. Nechayev said in an interview with INTERFAX correspondent that the Russian delegation in Munich intends "not only to confirm the set course of economic reforms, but also to make some interesting proposals".

Russia will propose—he went on—a programme for attracting foreign investments to the country. "We can no longer rely only on credits—that will lead eventually into an economic deadlock", he said. The greater stake, he explained, should be made on direct foreign investments in Russia's economy. The leadership of the Russian Federation will suggest to the seven leaders a plan of joint effort for creating a climate in Russia suitable for foreign investments.

If that finds support of the "seven" said A. Nachayev, it should influence the talks with the IMF on credits and bring closer the two sides' positions on those credits' terms. So far there have been some differences on the maximum tolerable budget deficit, the dates of liberalizing prices for energy, the limits to the rouble zone, and some others.

The only obstacle to success of the meeting in Munich between the "seven" and Russia may be Japan's position, says A. Nechayev, for that country is still "overcautious" in helping the Russian Federation.

EC Envoy Comments on Food Aid to Russia

LD2506164192 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1621 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By *ITAR-TASS* diplomatic correspondent Oleg Polovko]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—The food aid granted to Russia by the Commission of the European Communities was important for providing food for the poor and help ease the consequences of the freeing of prices, Michael Emerson, head of the mission of the Commission of the European Community in Moscow, said at a press conference in Moscow today.

He summed up the results of the implementation of the EC food aid programme, the beginning to which was set in Maastricht in December last. Six months after the beginning of the programme under which food aid worth 200 million ECU [European currency unit] was planned it was fulfilled to 90 per cent. Over 155 thousand tonnes of food was supplied to Moscow, St. Petersburg, Nizhny Novgorod, Saratov, Chelyabinsk—the cities visited by the working group of the EC. Meat, butter and vegetable oil, dry milk, sugar, baby foods constituted the bulk of food aid.

Viktor Korovchenko, first deputy premier of the Moscow Government, said that a new form of the

distribution of food aid, through auctions, was introduced in the Russian capital. The minimum price at auctions was set by the EC mission, and the reselling of large batches of food was prohibited. Thus, food products became available to people able to buy them at affordable price.

Positively assessing the results of the first experience of food aid to Russia, Emerson said that a new project of food aid worth 500 million ECU is now being considered.

Delegation to Minsk CIS Summit Named

PM2406193992 Moscow *ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA*
in Russian 25 Jun 92 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Composition of Delegation Ratified"]

[Text] The Russian Federation delegation to take part in the CIS states' heads of government session in Minsk 26 June has been ratified. It will comprise Gaydar (delegation leader), Shokhin, Grachev, Mashchits, Shelov-Kovedyayev, and Granberg.

'Tough Stance' on Currency

LD2506102292 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
0830 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By *ITAR-TASS* news analyst Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—Russia's tough stance in relations with former Union republics, which was demonstrated by the Kremlin throughout the past week, is likely to be also manifest at a meeting of the Commonwealth heads of government in Minsk on Friday [26 June]. This is evidenced by a draft agreement on coordinating actions and protecting the interests of the states in the rouble zone in the event of the introduction by them of national currencies. The document was prepared by Russian experts and tabled for signature at the forthcoming Minsk meeting.

The essence of this key document of the forthcoming meeting of the heads of government is that Russia actually delivers an ultimatum to the other Commonwealth states: Either they introduce national currencies in the next few months or begin "playing" within the rouble zone under the rules of the Central Bank of Russia.

In case a republic announces the introduction of its national currency, the draft envisages a range of the parties' transition commitments that make it possible to settle all debt and credit relations between economic subjects, the population and state structures mindful of the state of Central Banks' mutual settlements. If a republic decides to remain in the rouble zone, it will evidently have to pursue such a credit-financial policy that would not cause damage to the Central Bank of Russia and weaken the rouble.

Russian acting prime minister Yegor Gaydar promised recently that "The most rigid conditions will be set for those remaining in the rouble zone, envisaging in part Russia's control over the operation of their central banks."

At a meeting of the Russian Government on June 11, Vladimir Mashchits, chief of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation with the Commonwealth member-states, said if there appear states that will try to backpedal from rapid decision-making, will not declare the introduction of their currency or intention to remain in the rouble zone, "Russia should unilaterally apply towards them stringent measures to the point of selling Russian resources to them for freely convertible currency, denying cash roubles to them and other measures."

What is the reason behind this toughness in Russia's stance in issues of finance? The central banks of the Commonwealth member-states are pursuing a virtually unrestricted credit emission today. At the same time, in combatting inflation, the Central Bank of Russia carries out a rather moderate credit emission, which brings about a situation where bank credits extended in former Union republics "Are flowing back to us in exchange for specific resources," according to Mashchits. Naturally, this practice destabilises the rouble.

Making the rouble a convertible currency and, as Gaydar believes, "financial stabilisation in Russia as a whole" directly hinges today on the settlement of the aggravated credit and financial relations between the former Union republics.

Economic Sanctions Against Ukraine Suggested

PM2506140192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
22 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with Central Bank Chief Accountant Stanislav Nikitin by Valeriy Reshetnikov, plus comment by Russian First Deputy Finance Minister Andrey Vavilov; dates and places not stated: "Central Bank Proposes Adopting Harsh Economic Sanctions Against Ukraine"]

[Text] The decision by the National Bank of Ukraine to grant Ukrainian enterprises 260 billion rubles [R] has horrified the Central Bank of Russia, which has submitted a document to parliament citing Ukraine's violation of agreements to conduct a coordinated credit and finance policy within the framework of the ruble zone.

Central Bank Chief Accountant Stanislav Nikitin gave an interview to IZVESTIYA's correspondent.

[Reshetnikov] Stanislav Georgiyevich, why is the decision adopted in Ukraine so dangerous for the Russian economy?

[Nikitin] Let me remind you of something: Within the framework of the CIS there is an interstate agreement on a coordinated finance policy. All members of the ruble

zone agreed on the need for them to define the future parameters of growth in the overall money supply, in order to keep it within limits guaranteeing fairly smooth price rises. Although there is no concrete mechanism for coordinating finance policy, all states have assumed a gentleman's commitment to coordinating it.

Despite these agreements, Ukraine has adopted a decision to give its enterprises credit amounting to R260 million (we suggest that a significantly larger sum is involved, somewhere in excess of R300 million.)

Given that ruble zone partners are linked to one another through correspondence accounts which record reciprocal settlements for deliveries of goods and services, the billions allocated by Ukraine will inevitably end up in the current accounts of Russian enterprises (through Ukraine's correspondence accounts in the Central Bank)....

[Reshetnikov] Where will this lead?

[Nikitin] The fact is that Ukraine's money is added to our enterprises' correspondence accounts, passing through Ukraine's correspondence account in the Central Bank of Russia. That is, if Ukrainian enterprises pay our enterprises for a product, then the Ukrainian bank is instructing the Central Bank of Russia to increase Ukraine's debt to Russia. By increasing the deposit held by a Russian enterprise we are increasing the Ukraine's overall debt to us. Meanwhile, the sum total of debts owed to Russia by ruble zone countries by way of payments for goods and services stood at around R100 billion at the beginning of May. Of this, Ukraine owes over R50 billion.

At the same time, while knowing that its debts to Russia have already reached this formidable sum, Ukraine is nevertheless amenable to a further increase in this debt of roughly 150 billion. Ukraine, to put it mildly, is not acting in a gentlemanly fashion. This could have the most deplorable consequences for Russia—a fresh round of inflation.

[Reshetnikov] What was the Russian Supreme Soviet's reaction?

[Nikitin] We submitted an official statement to parliament. So far, no solution has been found during discussions by deputies.

[Reshetnikov] What will the Central Bank undertake to do?

[Nikitin] For the moment, nothing will be done without parliament's consent. There is only one way out of the situation. I will try to be as diplomatic as possible in explaining how to prevent an increase in Ukraine's indebtedness to Russia. Here is a simple example from history. In Lenin's times, Finland maintained a balance of payments deficit in settlements with us—it delivered more products than we paid for (we are talking about a debt of around \$200 million.) Then Finland stopped delivering goods, at the same time freezing the payments

deficit, and explained that it would not supply any goods to us until this balance was settled. In principle, the way out for Russia today is identical. It should stop delivering goods to Ukraine.

Of course, the opportunity exists for Ukraine to pick Russia's pockets through other ruble zone states—that is, for instance, by purchasing goods from Kazakhstan while Kazakhstan purchases from us. It is for this reason that Russia must dictate fairly strict terms to ruble zone states (which are also her debtors) on the impossibility of increasing deficits in settlements with Russia. If Russia fails to freeze the balance of payments deficit in settlements between republics at today's level (and this means halting deliveries of goods to all states without exception), then sanctions against Ukraine will be pointless. In short: The question of financial relations with Ukraine is on a par with regulating relations between all states in the ruble zone.

IZVESTIYA's correspondent contacted Andrey Vavilov, Russian first deputy finance minister, and asked him to comment on the situation.

"I agree with the Central Bank's position," Andrey Petrovich said. "I think that we will take concrete action to defend Russia's economy."

The first deputy finance minister, unfortunately, did not explain which kind of measures will be taken.

Stance on Baltics Troop Withdrawal Reiterated

OW2406162192 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1604 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In anticipation of Helsinki-2 conference (July 9-10), Russia is planning to take measures aimed at "neutralizing the hysteria surrounding the issue of the Russian troops withdrawal from the Baltic countries", said an employee of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in an interview to BALTFAX, requesting, however, that his identity remain unidentified.

The Russian diplomat made a special emphasis of the recent pronouncements by Mr. Katkus, head of the Lithuanian delegation at the CSCE conference in Helsinki, averring that "the statements such as that can only further strain the situation on the eve of the Helsinki meeting".

In his Monday [22 June] appearance on the republican television, Mr. Katkus asserted that Lithuania would insist that a resolution on the former USSR troops withdrawal from the Baltic countries be included in the text of the Final Document of the Helsinki-2 Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). Mr. Katkus also stressed that the withdrawal timetable for the Russian troops ought to be devised and put forth by Lithuania while Russia would have to pledge to "unconditionally" abide by it.

The unidentified employee of the Russian foreign ministry also indicated that Russia has no intentions to take any diplomatic action, such as a note, nor even react to "this particular statement".

The Russian diplomat reiterated that Russia's stance in this regard remains unchanging, meaning that "all the issues associated with the stationing of the Russian troops on the territory of Lithuania, their status, and the timetable of their withdrawal should be resolved only in the process of the countries' bilateral talks".

Ministry Refutes Troops Increasing in Latvia

LD1906095992 Riga Radio Riga Network
in Latvian 1730 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] The Russian Defense Ministry press center refutes information from the Latvian Security Service that the contingent of Russian troops in Latvia is increasing. Such an assertion was expressed on 17 June when a news conference was held in Riga with four soldiers called up in Tyumen who had left a unit of troops stationed in Latvia where they had to undergo their service. Those soldiers asked the Latvian Government to assist them in the continuation of their service in their homeland. As a RIA correspondent was informed at the Russian Defense Ministry press center, additional units are not being sent to Latvia, but soldiers who have served their time are being replaced in a planned manner. Moreover, the contingent of Russian troops is even diminishing because the number of those being demobilized exceeds the number of new recruits.

Azerbaijani, Baltic Border Protection Sought

OW2506182892 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1711 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The commander of Russia's border guards, Vladimir Shlyakhtin, has described measures to protect Russia's borders with the Baltic countries and Azerbaijan a top priority. Currently the Russian borders with other member-states of the CIS, as well as Georgia and Baltic countries are unguarded. Speaking at a news conference in Moscow on Thursday [25 June] Shlyakhtin said that first of all there should be inter-state negotiations in order to settle the border issue. Shlyakhtin said that there had been attempts to "force Russian border guards out of the Baltic countries and Transcaucasia." For instance, the question of their withdrawal has been brought up by the new leaders of Azerbaijan. Shlyakhtin did not rule out that in case of a worsening situation the Russian border guards would have to leave Azerbaijan without an appropriate agreement at the government level. However, he said that Moscow wanted a "civilized", negotiated settlement.

For the time being the Baltic and Transcaucasia border guard districts have been guarding the borders of the former USSR, placed under Russian jurisdiction.

Shlyakhtin came out in support of "transparent" borders between CIS member-states, in the first place with Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Byelarus, provided the security of Russia's external borders (i.e. along the former USSR border) was guaranteed.

Byelarus To Receive 4,500 Prisoners From Russia

OW2506182692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1456 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] About 4,500 prisoners will be sent to Byelarus in accordance with the Russian government's decision to send prisoners from Russian correctional-labour institutions to the states where they were convicted.

Byelarus will allocate 40 million roubles to the maintenance of these prisoners. As the Byelarusian prisons are overloaded, auxiliary buildings are being re-adjusted for keeping prisoners.

The Byelarusian Interior Ministry informed IF [INTERFAX] that Byelarus will have to build more correctional labour institutions.

Middle East Peace Called Diplomatic Priority

LD1806153992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1436 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow June 18 ITAR-TASS—Notwithstanding the continuation of considerable tension in a number of Middle East hot spots, the peace process in the region is gradually gaining force. As a co-sponsor Russia considers the ensurment of successful progress of this process as one of the top priorities of its foreign policy.

The Foreign Ministry of Russia has carefully analyzed the outcome of the preceeding five rounds of the bilateral Arab-Israeli meetings, and also of the May session of the multi-sided working groups, including the Coordination Committee meeting in Lisbon. Consultations recently held in Washington between the director of Africa and Middle East Department of the Foreign Ministry of Russia, V.V. Posuvalyuk and U.S. Undersecretary Edward Djerejian, were mainly devoted to the state of affairs of the Middle East peace process. In particular, they discussed further steps aimed at achieving progress in the bilateral, as well as multi-sided talks. From our point of view, consultations on topical problems held with U.S. Undersecretary of State H. Cowan were also productive. The chief of the Middle East Department of the Russian Foreign Ministry, V.I. Kolotusha, recently visited Tunis within the framework of achieving progress in the Middle East peace process for meetings with Palestinian leaders. During the exchange of views with the Palestinian side the readiness to a constructive assistance in making the talks successful was confirmed.

On the whole, it can be said that without exception all participants of the peace process maintain interest in its continuation, and favour a close cooperation with the

Russian diplomacy in its capacity as one of the co-chairmen of the peace conference.

World Support To Resume Middle East Talks Urged

LD1906081692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1355 GMT 18 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Igor Shubin]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—Russia and the United States of America must play an active role in resuming of the Middle East peace talks, Musa Mubarak, a high ranking official in the Embassy of Palestine in Moscow said. The present Russian-U.S. summit is also called upon to assist this cause. Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Washington will lead to an increase in intergovernmental action of the two countries in finding solutions to many international issues, Musa Mubarak said. He also spoke in favour of the mediation efforts of the European Community in setting the ball rolling in the Arab-Israeli dialogue, which have immense interests in the Middle East.

We made as much concessions as possible manifesting our desire for a peaceful solution to the problem, the Palestine Embassy representative said. Expressing hope for the resumption of the Middle East peace talks at the end of July, Musa Mubarak emphasised that Palestinians are ready for discussions with Israel irrespective of the outcome of the next week's elections in the country.

At the same time the Palestinian side is increasingly concerned by Israel's actions on the occupied territory. The recent detention of two advisers of the Palestinian delegation without any apparent reason compelled the league of Arab states to demand a special session of the U.N. Human Rights Commission. The holding of the session would mean a serious moral support to the Palestinian people in their struggle for the creation of their own independent state, Musa Mubarak emphasised.

According to Musa Mubarak, with the active support of the entire world community, especially of leading powers, peace in the Middle East must be achieved at last.

Ties With Israel To 'Develop Successfully'

LD2506223292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
2024 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—"No one had expected such a big gap between 'Awoda' [Labor Party] and 'Likud'," that is how Arye Levin, the Israeli ambassador in Moscow commented today on the preliminary results of the recent elections held in Israel.

According to preliminary figures, the "Awoda" won 45 seats in the Israeli Parliament Knesset out of a total of 120. Its main adversary the "Likud" block could get only

32 mandates. Speaking of the possible composition of the new government the ambassador said that the leader of the "Awoda" party Yitzhaq Rabin will hardly form a coalition government with the "Likud", but will rather form a "broad based coalition" with other parties with the aim of getting the maximum support to his programme.

As far as the programme of Yitzhaq Rabin is concerned, according to Arye Levin, the new government will concentrate its attention mainly on the Middle East peace process, resolving social problems and also on the restoration of "close and good" relations with the U.S. The Middle East peace process will be continued within the Madrid conference framework, he said. The ambassador said that everything possible will be done to continue talks with "the Palestinian delegation from Israeli occupied territories," rejecting the possibility of holding talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization. Yitzhaq Rabin also supports the idea of granting the Palestinians autonomy and self-rule within five years, the envoy said. In addition to it, the "Awoda" leader intends to stop the construction of new settlements on predominantly Palestinian areas, directing the leftover capital investments worth billions to the solution of social problems and first of all the unemployment problem.

In reply to the question regarding the prospects of the development of Israel's relations with Russia, Arye Levin said that Yitzhaq Rabin "is quite positively minded" towards Russia and that is why bilateral ties will develop successfully.

Ministry 'Concerned' Over Events in South Africa

LD2306140192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1311 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Sergey Nikishov and Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Russian is greatly concerned over the recent reports on violence in South Africa, according to a Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Sergey Yastrzhembskiy expressed condolences to families of those killed in an attack on Boypatong township near Johannesburg on June 17-18. The developments can pose a threat to the process of negotiations in the country, he said at a briefing on Tuesday [23 June].

The Russian leadership believes the process, which has no alternative, has become irreversible and those who resort to violence will not undermine it, the spokesman said.

Further on Official's Visit to Japan

LD2506004192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1132 GMT 24 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Solntsev]

[Text] Tokyo, 24 Jun—Realistic opportunities now have appeared for practical discussion of the question of how to create a security system in the Asia-Pacific region [APR] without copying the CSCE, but by using the positive experience that exists in Europe and that can be used in the APR, bearing in mind local situations. Russia is ready to take part in such a system, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said today in an interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent.

According to the high-ranking Russian diplomat, he sees "nothing terrible" in reducing, and ultimately ending, Russia's military presence in the APR. "This process", he said, "reflects the objective tendency toward a transition from ensuring security by methods involving military force to ensuring it by political means through agreed mechanisms, including multilateral ones."

The formation of a security system in Asia, Sergey Lavrov noted, must help to implement the provisions set out in Article 8 of the UN Charter to the effect that, to ensure peace and security, the United Nations must cooperate with regional organizations in a most active way. This is already happening in Europe, where the network of regional mechanisms is already sufficiently supported and is continuing to develop. "We have an interest", he said, "in seeing that similar regional structures are set up in other parts of the world, and that in conjunction with the United Nations, they should more actively assume both political and financial responsibility for ensuring peace and security."

Noting the words of Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who declared on Monday [22 June] that he was in favor of the countries in Asia thinking about creating a security structure in the region now that the Cold War has ended, the Russian deputy foreign minister judged those remarks to be a reflection of the fact that Japan also has an interest in seeking practical ways of setting up such a system with the participation of all the major APR powers, including the United States, China, and Russia. "We are open to such seeking," he said.

The topic of the prospects for initiating cooperation over security problems in the APR with the participation of other countries in the region, Sergey Lavrov said, was also aired at the first Russo-Japanese consultations held last week in Moscow on foreign-policy planning issues. Noting that it was the first contact with the participation of military men in the history of their bilateral diplomatic consultations, he voiced the view that "it is both a symbol and a beginning of practical steps to bring about closer cooperation between Russia and Japan with regard to problems in foreign policy planning as a whole, and problems of security in the APR and of international organizations in particular."

According to him, questions of cooperation between Russia and the G-7 states also were discussed during the Moscow consultations. "This was particularly useful," the Russian diplomat said, "bearing in mind that the G-7

coordinating country will be Japan after the Munich summit, and the decisions that we all hope will be adopted in Munich on cooperation between G-7 and Russia will, in fact, be implemented, with Japan playing the coordinating role."

Lavrov expressed the hope that the participation of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev in the forthcoming expanded meeting a month from now in Manila, of the heads of the foreign ministries of the member-countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will enable Russia to develop cooperation with ASEAN more actively. In his opinion, there is no need to "dramatize the situation" in connection with the intention of the countries of ASEAN, which comprises six Southeast Asian states, to develop military cooperation. "If it is developed through increasing interaction between all APR countries with an air of openness and unambiguity, this will, perhaps, even foster the creation of effective structures capable of being responsible, in collaboration with all interested countries, for ensuring peace and cooperation with the United Nations," the Russian deputy foreign minister said.

Japan To Participate in UN Peacemaking Efforts

LD2406203592 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
2021 GMT 24 Jun 92

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Vladimir Solntsev]

[Text] Tokyo June 24 TASS—The Russian Foreign Ministry positively assessed the recent adoption by the Japanese Parliament of the law regarding its assistance in UN peacemaking operations, ensuing from the necessity to strengthen the ability of the UN in an effective support to peace and security in various "hot spots". Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, who is on a visit to Tokyo, said in an interview with the *ITAR-TASS* correspondent.

Replying to a question regarding the law, which for the first time in the post-war history of the country legalizes despatch of Japanese troops to participate in UN peacemaking efforts, Sergey Lavrov said that concrete forms of putting the law into practice is, undoubtedly, purely an internal affair of Japan, its parliament and the government. "From our side we hope that it will really help UN peacemaking operations in organizational and financial respect. On the whole we perceive the law in the form it is formulated, and so far we have no basis to cast doubts on its provisions that it will not be used for involving Japanese servicemen in military actions," he said.

Foreign Ministry Explains Absence at Tokyo Talks

PM2606095592 Moscow *IZVESTIYA in Russian*
25 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 5

[Gennadiy Charodeyev report: "Meeting in Tokyo Postponed"]

[Text] REUTER reports that for reasons unclear to the Japanese side, Russia's representatives did not arrive for the routine session of the bilateral working group on the peace treaty due to be held in Tokyo 24 June.

Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman M. Hanabusha stated that his leadership has still not received a clear answer from Moscow about the date of the possible arrival of a Russian delegation for a session of the working group.

Answering your *IZVESTIYA* correspondent's question, Sergey Yastrzhembskiy, director of a Russian Foreign Ministry department, stressed that the date of the meeting was proposed by the Japanese side. Moscow did not confirm the precise date of its arrival. "We merely told the Japanese in reply that we would try to keep to the planned day."

The Foreign Ministry spokesmen went on to say that in the past few days Russian diplomats have had a number of most important events to attend and meetings with President Yeltsin. Therefore there was simply not enough time for us to prepare to take part in the routine session of the bilateral working group on the peace treaty.

In addition, Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Saito is supposed to take part in the meeting but, as is well known, he is leaving in a few days for the "G-7" meeting in Munich. As S. Yastrzhembskiy stated, there is no political subtext to the postponed opening of the talks. The date will be agreed later through diplomatic channels.

Japanese Embassy Threatened Over Kurils Issue

PM2606103192 Moscow *IZVESTIYA in Russian*
25 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 6

[Sergey Mostovshchikov report: "No Encampment Around the Japanese Embassy in Moscow. But There Have Been Threats"]

[Text] The Japanese embassy in Moscow has received an anonymous letter containing threats against diplomats and mission staff. The nameless authors say that if the embassy continues distributing materials on the northern territories problem, staffers will be attacked.

The anonymous letter was received in the embassy's mail around 10 days ago. It contained a page of text, the general thrust of which, according to *IZVESTIYA*'s information, is that the Kuril islands of Iturup, Kunashir, Shikotan, and Haboman are Russian land and that we will not yield an inch of them to anyone. However, the Japanese diplomatic mission is accused of distributing in Moscow and the CIS, materials containing a different viewpoint. The anonymous geographers, clearly guided by the belief that their teaching is eternal because it is correct, offer physical violence as the main argument to their opponents. Even without setting up an encampment around the embassy first.

As a high-ranking embassy staffer told IZVESTIYA, diplomats and personnel have been informed of the content of the letter. Staffers have been advised to take care on the street in Moscow. By all accounts, however, this would seem to be the extent of the security measures that have been taken. IZVESTIYA has been given to understand that the embassy does not intend causing a big fuss over the letter or making a sensation out of it even though this is the first threat against a diplomatic mission in at least the past five or seven years [as published].

"It is quite likely that we are dealing with a routine act of provocation", a Japanese diplomat told IZVESTIYA. "Be that as it may, though, it grieves us that some people are prepared to resort to force or the threat of force. Especially since all that we are doing is giving people in your country an opportunity to learn more about the northern territories problem."

The Russian Security Ministry, which is responsible for protecting foreign embassies and their staffers from terrorist acts, confirms that anonymous threats are most often nothing but threats. The Russian Security Ministry rates them as an attempt "by certain people" to bring their views to the notice of the authorities. However, all information on potential terrorist acts is checked and, as a rule, the Russian Security Ministry tries to find all "certain people" of this kind.

According to Andrey Chernenko, chief of the Russian Security Ministry Public Relations Center, "other measures are being taken." Primarily these measures take the form of the Russian Security Ministry intensifying the external surveillance of approaches to embassies, preventing vehicles from stopping near the most important buildings, moving newspaper kiosks and other stands away from embassies, and installing iron barriers. In addition, it is quite likely that this is only the public aspect of the work of the Russian Security Ministry's new administration for combatting terrorism because almost all its personnel are former counterintelligence staffers.

According to IZVESTIYA's information, the Russian Security Ministry has some experience of forestalling terrorist acts against foreign embassies. This year alone, the Israeli embassy in Moscow, for example, has already received two bomb threats.

Moscow, Tokyo Still Disagree on Kuril Issue

OW2506182292 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1455 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "Russia and Japan still disagree over the territorial problem". This has been declared in an interview with a DP [Diplomatic Panorama—as received] reporter by a senior RF [Russian Federation] Foreign Ministry official, a specialist on relations with Japan.

He recalled that Japan had been pressing for a return of the four South Kuril islands, which had been taken over by the former USSR in line with the World War Two results.

In the diplomat's words, the territorial problem will be part of the agenda of a session of the Russo-Japanese Working Group on a Peace Treaty, "which is due to be held in Tokyo in the near future".

The expert also revealed plans to discuss at the session preparation for President Yeltsin's official visit to Japan in September.

Philippines Seek To Develop Relations

LD2506200392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1602 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Boris Krivoshey]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—The Philippines are interested in maintaining and developing political and economic relations with the Russian Federation and intend to adhere to agreements and accords already reached, the acting Charge d'Affaires of the Philippines in Russia Jose Zayde [name as received] said in an interview with ITAR-TASS in connection with Fidel Ramos' taking his post as president of the country on June 30.

Jose Zayde noted that Russia traditionally pays special attention to its relations with Western countries and strives to develop ties with Asian countries as well, especially with such countries as Japan and South Korea. However Asia is not limited only to these countries. In this connection, the Philippines and other states of south-east Asia would like Russia to show a greater interest in the development of relations with them.

Speaking of the 25th annual conference of Asian foreign ministers in Manila late July, to which Russia's Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev is also invited, the Philippine diplomat emphasised that the Philippines continue to consider Russia as a Pacific Ocean region power and think that to a large extent peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific Region (APR) depends on its position. The Philippines and other Asian countries are concerned in preventing the escalation of arms race in the APR and stand for the realization of the conception of creating a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality, in which Russia and other leading countries' help would play an important role, Zayde emphasised.

DPRK Attempts To Obtain 'Secret' Documents

SK2406055392 Seoul YONHAP in English
0458 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow, June 24 (YONHAP)—North Korea has tried hard to obtain secret Soviet documents on the

Korean war as Russia stepped up its efforts to democratize the country following the attempted coup in August 1991.

A diplomatic source said Wednesday [24 June] the North Korean move came to light in reports to the then chief of staff by the archives of the Defense Ministry and the office of the general staff.

According to the reports, Maj. Gen. Kim Chong-chan, a military attache at the North Korean Embassy in Moscow, sent a letter addressed to the Soviet chief of staff, asking for secret Soviet documents on the role of the Red Army for "the liberation of (North) Korea" in 1945 and on the Korean war (1950-53).

Officials at the archives confirmed that there was a considerable amount of secret documents on the subject, the source said, requesting anonymity.

The source said North Korea apparently sought to obtain the papers in order to work out a government position, defending itself against charges that it was North Korea that started the Korean war, as may be proved by the Soviet documents. North Korea had claimed that South Korea started the war and that its troops only invaded the South in retaliation.

Some of the top secret papers include information on activities of Soviet Air Force units and their auxiliary units stationed in northeastern China during the Korean war, according to the reports.

Justice Minister Explains Purpose of PRC Visit
PM2606084392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 19 Jun 92 First Edition p 7

[Report by Vladimir Fedoruk: "Our People in China"]

[Text] All previous visits to the PRC by Russian Government representatives have been geared to ensuring that the upcoming summit meeting between the leaders of the Russian Federation and China is as productive as possible, Russian Federation Justice Minister Nikolay Fedorov, who arrived here yesterday, said in an interview for ITAR-TASS.

He noted that the main task of the Russian delegation's current stay in the PRC is the signing of a Russian-Chinese treaty on legal assistance in civil and criminal matters. The document is symbolic in form and content. It will form the foundation, Nikolay Fedorov said, of an important legal dimension in the future development of relations between the two states. One of the chief aspects of this treaty is acknowledgement of the juridical force of states' judicial decisions on different territories and the implementation of all judicial and investigative operations. In other words, giving assistance on a mutual basis in the fight against crime or in the search for property to representatives of a neighboring country requesting help.

In particular, an enormous number of young Russian entrepreneurs have poured into China. Unfortunately,

their actions often violate legislation and a whole host of problems arises. To avoid bringing this generally speaking laudable trade and economic cooperation into disrepute, it is necessary to civilize their activities and make them legal, the Russian minister pointed out.

During his stay in the PRC, Nikolay Fedorov is expected to hold talks with senior representatives of the PRC justice ministry, prosecutor's office, and courts, and will tour the southern Chinese province of Guangdong and the Shenzhen special economic zone.

Treaty Marks Closer Cooperation

LD1906113992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0845 GMT 19 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Fedoruk]

[Text] Beijing June 19 TASS—Russian Justice Minister Nikolay Fedorov, currently on an official visit here, on Friday [19 June] signed with his Chinese counterpart Kai Cheng a Russian-Chinese treaty on legal aid in civil and criminal cases.

"The task of politicians is to fill the natural desire of our peoples for friendship and cooperation with the positive contents in the fields of politics, economy and, more importantly and symbolically, in the field of law," Fedorov told ITAR-TASS.

This is confirmed by today's signing of the inter-state legal treaty. Russia attaches priority to developing relations with China and "our task is to ensure the dynamic development of relations between the two countries," he said.

The document signed today is the first interstate treaty in Russia's history which steers relations between the two great countries into a legal channel, the minister stressed. For example, Russian businessmen dealing with China should bear in mind that any deviations from etiquette and entrepreneurship will be in the focus of attention of legal bodies of China and Russia. Any violation will be punished severely.

The current treaty, Fedorov continued, marks the first step towards creating powerful institutions of legal cooperation with China. In nearest future there are plans to examine ways of fostering closer links in the legal sphere, particularly, on matters of extradition of criminals.

Speaking about the forthcoming visit to the south-Chinese province of Guangdong and the special economic zone Shenzhen, the Russian minister pointed out that the delegation will focus its attention on China's legal expertise in the creation of free economic zones.

Russian-German Body Discusses Troop Withdrawal
LD1906082792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1804 GMT 16 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksey Korniyenko]

[Text] Berlin, 16 Jun—A routine session of the mixed commission on the withdrawal of the troops of the Western Group of Forces from Germany was held here today under the chairmanship of Colonel General Matvey Burlakov, commander in chief of the Western Group of Forces. The Russian representatives noted that as of 1 June 78,000 people—including 49,700 servicemen—18,000 items of various types of hardware and weaponry, and 315,000 tonnes of material and technical equipment—including 110,000 tonnes of ammunition—had been withdrawn from German territory in 1992; 54 military installations were handed over to the German side.

Reference was made to the social problems facing servicemen in the Western Group of Forces as they return home, the solution to which requires the faster and more efficient sale of buildings and the implementation of the plan for building houses program at the new places of deployment.

The sides discussed the range of issues connected with the Western Group of Forces' intention to carry out the destruction of the armored combat vehicles on German territory where they are based for those vehicles which are to be cut under the treaty on conventional armed forces in Europe. The sides confirmed their intention to reach an agreement swiftly in order to create all the preconditions for the destruction of the armored vehicles in the shortest period of time.

The commission welcomed the progress being made on preventing damage to the environment. The delegation reported on measures being taken to clean up the areas occupied by the troops.

The successful cooperation between the Western Group of Forces' law enforcement bodies and the German authorities in preventing and pursuing criminal acts was noted.

The commission also noted the efforts of German charitable organizations and private individuals in helping child victims of the Chernobyl disaster who are being treated in the Western Group of Forces' hospital in Beelitz.

WAG Commander Meets German Minister in Bonn

LD2406171992 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1618 GMT 24 Jun 92

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Konstantin Savvin]

[Text] Berlin June 24 TASS—Commander-in-chief of Russia's Western Army Group (WAG), Colonel-General Matvey Burlakov met Germany's Federal Minister of Environmental, Protection of Nature and Safety of Nuclear Reactor Affairs Klaus Toepfer on Tuesday [23 June] in Bonn. According to a report published today by the WAG press-centre, Colonel-General Burlakov informed Toepfer of the measures undertaken in the

WAG with the aim to relieve pressure on the environment and improve the ecological situation at day-to-day and combat training activity places of the Army.

Large scale cleaning and recultivation works on the territory allocated to the WAG are underway, which are being carried out by six recultivation battalions, four engineer battalions of the Russian Air Force, over 800 machines and about 20,000 Army personnel. Over 45,000 hectares of land has already been cleaned and recultivated, including 48 firing ranges and 14 aerodromes, out of which 5 have artificial runways.

In order to establish the extent of environmental damage done and for its elimination joint actions of German and Russian experts are needed, Burlakov emphasised. According to him, it is necessary to unify efforts of the WAG subdivisions for liquidation of damage with German ecological experts' work.

No Former Agents Under Investigation in Germany

LD2206085692 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
0825 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By *ITAR-TASS* diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeev]

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS—The spokeswoman of the director of the Russian Intelligence Service, Tatyana Samolis, told *ITAR-TASS* today "no agent of the former Soviet Union is under investigation or in prison in Germany".

In an article in the Sunday edition of the German newspaper "BERLINER MORGENPOST" it was said the German Government is negotiating with the Russian Federation an exchange of former Soviet agents. According to the report, one already is imprisoned and others are under investigation of the German Intelligence Service BND. Bonn wants from Moscow the archives of the former East German Intelligence Service which fell into the hands of the KGB during the days of the German revolution in 1989. Tatyana Samolis emphasized that those documents are not the possession of the Russian Intelligence Service.

Impact of UN Troops in Yugoslavia Viewed

PM2506112092 Moscow *KRASNAYA ZVEZDA*
in Russian 24 Jun 92 p 3

[Report by correspondent Colonel A. Oliynik: "Will the Second Russian Battalion of 'Blue Berets' Be Sent to Yugoslavia?"]

[Excerpts] It has become known from well-informed sources that the UN Security Council has asked the Russian leadership to assign another battalion to the contingent of UN forces in Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR), as well as a field hospital and aviator specialists to receive aircraft carrying humanitarian aid at Sarajevo airport.

It is well known that one Russian infantry battalion of 900 men, under the command of Colonel V. Loginov, is already taking part in the UNPROFOR operation in the Balkans. It is stationed in one of the "hottest" spots in Yugoslavia—in a Serbian-Croatian border region, inhabited by Serbs, in the northwest of the country. It should be noted that the local populace greeted our 'Blue Berets' warmly and took an understanding view of their peace-making mission—they do not have the strength to go on enduring the violence and hatred. However, I think the Serbs living in Bosnia and Hercegovina will take a very different view of the arrival of a battalion of Russian "Blue Berets" here, and not only Russians.... [passage omitted]

By all appearances, the armed conflict in Yugoslavia is taking on an entirely new character. More and more countries are being sucked into the bloody maelstrom, each pursuing its own objectives. However, anyone expressing willingness to intervene in an internal Yugoslav conflict would do well to consider the lessons of history and the fact that the fuse of world war was kindled in the Balkans once before. Let us hope it does not turn out that the Russian military in the UN troop contingent get dragged into someone else's civil war. We have enough problems with the Dniester region and Ossetia.

Nor should it be forgotten that the Serbs are our age-old brother Slavs, and that our friendship has stood the test of centuries. God forbid that Russian soldiers find themselves carrying arms against Serbian formations in Bosnia.... Regardless of good intentions, the Slav peoples in the states of the former Union, to say nothing of Yugoslavia itself, will not understand us.

It is clearly on the basis of these considerations that a negative view of the UN Security Council's request to send a further battalion of "Blue Berets" to Yugoslavia is being expressed in the Russian Federation Armed Forces General Staff. At the same time, taking into account the scale of the bloody conflict in Sarajevo and the numerous civilian casualties, the General Staff takes a positive view on sending to Yugoslavia a field hospital staffed with medical personnel, as well as specialists to safeguard the operation of Sarajevo airport.

However, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's correspondent has learned that the Russian Foreign Ministry, in the shape of its leader A. Kozyrev, takes the opposite view to the General Staff on the UN Security Council request. This view is expressed unequivocally in a Foreign Ministry request addressed to Russian Federation Defense Minister Army General P. Grachev. The reaction of the leader of the military ministry is not yet known. The position of the republic Supreme Soviet on this issue is also unclear, as is the attitude of the Russian president....

So the question of whether another Russian battalion of "Blue Berets" will go to Yugoslavia remains open.

Industry Ministry Signs Poland Cooperation Pact

OW1806121092 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1023 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A treaty of cooperation has been signed by the Russian Ministry of Industry and the Polish Ministry of Industry and Trade. The Russian minister Aleksandr Titkin told IF [INTERFAX] that during his recent visit to Warsaw a memorandum was signed implying broad cooperation between Polish and Russian industrial facilities.

The transition to settlements in hard currency between the two countries was a thoughtless step, the minister said. Neither Russia, nor Poland have sufficient hard currency reserves for that. As a result ties that were built between companies of the two countries collapsed and their economies suffer. For example 16

of parts for Ilyushin-96 planes as well as diesel engines for Russian drilling equipment were manufactured in Poland. Now Russian companies are unable to purchase this equipment and Polish companies cannot sell it to third countries.

Clearing centers should be set up for the solution of the problem on the basis of commercial banks of the two countries. Transnational companies will also be formed which will include the integrated productions of Russia and Poland.

Army Troops Withdraw 'Joylessly' From Poland

LD2206105292 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 1700 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Video report by Yu. Ulyanov from Poland on Russian troop withdrawal; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Russian troops are withdrawing from Poland. They are withdrawing joylessly, because there is no housing in their homeland. But they are withdrawing in accordance with the treaty and schedule given to the Polish side without concealing anything.

Leonid Kovalev, the new commander of the Western Group of Forces, spoke honestly about all our problems to representatives of the Polish Army and the military attaches of all embassies in Warsaw at a Russian troop unit location.

There are no tanks, rocket launchers, or artillery systems in Poland. Only two communications brigades will remain after 15 November, the final time limit for the withdrawal of our troops, to guarantee the withdrawal and transit through Polish territory of the Western Group of Forces leaving Germany.

Rutskoy Interviewed During Argentine Visit

PY1806144092 Buenos Aires PAGINA/12 in Spanish
12 Jun 92 p 18

[“Exclusive” interview with Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, by Claudio Uriarte in Buenos Aires]

[Text] [Uriarte] General, could war break out between Russia and Ukraine?

[Rutskoy] (Laughs). No, no, no. That is out of the question. Actually, it would be completely absurd.

[Uriarte] Yet tension is growing. Are CIS forces likely to take action to defend the Russian minorities in other republics, such as in the Crimean peninsula in Ukraine, and in the Dniester region in Moldova?

[Rutskoy] I will tell you my own personal opinion, and it should be strictly considered as such. In my opinion, if human rights, if the United Nations Human Rights Charter is violated, and if minorities are not protected, the use of force is morally and legally justified. Provided, of course, it is used to preserve human rights and, especially, in compliance with our Constitution.

[Uriarte] Don't you fear that this situation of friction and tension between Russia and some other former Soviet republics may end up becoming an obstacle to the Western aid plan for \$25 billion?

[Rutskoy] First let me tell you the following: The situation within the Russian Federation is much more stable than in the other republics. In addition, most of the aid plan that you have mentioned is destined for the Russian Federation. We have chosen our policy, and we want to be very cautious with every step we take. Russian development comes first, and that is why we want to be very prudent. Yet I would like to emphasize my opinion that the republics that choose strongly nationalistic policies will not have positive results in the economic area. Nationalism will not help them feed their people.

[Uriarte] What are the guarantees for the West—and for that matter for the rest of the world—that the tactical nuclear weapons that were previously deployed in Ukrainian territory have been effectively returned to Russia?

[Rutskoy] The first guarantee is that all command centers of the former Soviet nuclear forces are in Russia, under total Russian control. Apparently there were indications that Ukraine had not fulfilled its promise to return all nuclear materials to Russia. On 23 May in Lisbon, however, an agreement was reached by the United States, Russia, the Ukraine, and Kazakhstan to respect the existing strategic disarmament treaties, to comply with the restrictions on those weapons, and to turn the Ukraine and Kazakhstan into demilitarized zones. This treaty is now awaiting ratification by the U.S. Senate. As for Russia, I can assure you that we will most responsibly control nuclear weapons. You can have confidence in Russia.

[Uriarte] Has the economic reform become stagnant?

[Rutskoy] Not at all. We concluded the first stage, which consisted basically of price deregulation. Our priority target now is to increase production. Inflation has dropped, and so have fiscal expenditures; our credit policy is more restricted and austere, while conditions are being created for stabilizing the financial and monetary system. Now we have to begin with privatization. It should be borne in mind that state-run enterprises account for 95 percent of the economy. We hope we will have privatized 50 percent of the commercial and the light industry areas by the end of this year. For the heavy industry area, we have a privatization plan of three to five years. We must convert the military industry into an industry for civil use. Effective measures for convertibility of the ruble will be adopted as of 1 July, and by the end of the year we hope the ruble will be totally convertible for import and export operations.

[Uriarte] But you are known to have discrepancies with Boris Yeltsin on the economic reform.

[Rutskoy] We share common objectives, but this does not exclude tactical discrepancies in certain circumstances. I am currently in charge of the reform and land privatization programs. We have serious problems, because 50 percent of Russia's agricultural production is lost because of lack of silos, storing facilities, and appropriate transportation vehicles. I believe that the reconversion of the military industrial area plays a major role here, but I also believe that Russia's military industry has many examples of sophisticated technology that is not available in other countries. I do not think that all this technology—which can be sold and which can compete at a world level—should be wasted by ordering, for example, an efficient, modern and competitive factory to start producing frying pans.

Vice Premiers Address Stockholm Forum on Economy

PM2406171192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Mikhail Berger: “Vice Premiers, Like Scientific Experts, Believe in Favorable Development of Events”]

[Text] Stockholm—An international conference entitled “change in the economic system in Russia” has been held in Stockholm in which members of the Russian Government—Vice Premiers Aleksandr Shokhin and Anatoliy Chubays—and other notable representatives of Gaydar's team took part together with well known scientists.

The organizer of this economic consultation is Anders Oslund, director of the Stockholm institute of East European economics, who asserted in the fall of 1990: “Martial law will be introduced in the Soviet Union in one form or another before the end of summer next year.” To what seemed at the time convincing objections on this score he replied that he had heard exactly the

same arguments in Poland in the summer of 1981. There are, he said, three virtually compulsory stages for the transition from a totalitarian economy to a market economy: the stage of half-measures (what Mikhail Gorbachev was doing), an attempt to use force, and, finally, a stage of democratic transformations. The Union had a chance of jumping from the first stage straight to the third but after the "500 days" program was rejected that chance was irreparably lost.

This time his forecasts did not look as gloomy, but nor was it possible to call them particularly optimistic. He did not predict coups but he did not share the optimism of some representatives of the Russian side regarding the fact that the government has managed to overcome the danger of hyperinflation. Whereas headway in the field of liberalization, Oslund believes, is noticeable and undoubted, with regard to financial stabilization great trials await the government and hyperinflation still lies in wait for the Russian reformers.

Another well known participant in the conference, Professor Nikolay Shmelev, like Oslund also made forecasts about a putsch. In a television interview in September 1990 he noted: If a coup does happen then the emergency authorities will not hold out for more than three days. And Shmelev's forecast for the remainder of this year does not promise any apocalyptic events either. In his opinion, Gaydar's team will also remain in power but will be seriously inhibited by the directorial [direktorskaya] section of the government, which could alter the direction and nature of reforms. Shmelev suggested that at some time in October life will compel the introduction of a Russian currency.

Understandably, the greatest interest was generated by the speeches delivered by Vice Premiers Chubays and Shokhin. Chubays assured everyone that before the end of this year all state enterprises will have been turned into joint-stock companies and Shokhin spoke of the problems of his new sphere of activity—Russia's international economic relations. In particular, he noted that one of the main problems arises in connection with the fact that an effective mechanism has to be created for using international financial support. This may be a special international coordinating group.

For all that they were to some degree critical and even somewhat pessimistic, the Russian Government representatives as a whole assessed their prospects positively enough. They did not have implacable opponents even among the purely scientific section of the conference, represented by authoritative experts from the United States, Britain, Poland, the Scandinavian countries, and Russia itself. Obviously missing from the ranks of the conference participants were one or two new vice premiers from the "directorial" section of the government. And if their speeches had not introduced a note of discord, it would have been possible with a great deal of justification to accept the albeit cautious optimism which hovered over the conference.

Turkish Economic Cooperation Plans Outlined

PM2506144092 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
25 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 5

[Vladimir Khovratovich report: "Russia-Turkey: Economic Bridge With Road Signs But No Traffic"]

[Text] Istanbul and Moscow—Preparations are under way in Istanbul to greet Russian President Boris Yeltsin. For the first time in the 500 years' history of Russian-Turkish relations, a Russian head of state is to visit the city on the Bosphorus. B. Yeltsin is coming to Istanbul to sign the Declaration on Black Sea Economic Cooperation. The idea of creating a Black Sea cooperation zone was put forward a few years ago by Turkish President Turgut Ozal, with the active support of Istanbul business circles.

The city on the Bosphorus was and is the main industrial, commercial, and financial center of Turkish private enterprise. Largely thanks to the efforts of Istanbul businessmen, in recent years the country has made an unprecedented leap forward in the modernization of its economy, becoming a dynamic and influential "regional power."

Russia accounts for 90 percent of the 2-billion [currency not specified] trade turnover between Turkey and the CIS countries. The Turks, especially Istanbul's business circles, realize that risk is inevitable on the Russian market, but are nonetheless trying hard to break through to it. Unfortunately, we pin more hopes on Europe and America, although Russia and Turkey are divided only by the Black Sea.

In the opinion of Leonid Manzhosin, Russia's consul general in Istanbul, the main thing that must be done today is to orient local business toward participating in the development of Russia's Black Sea ports: Tuapse, Sochi, and the biggest of all—Novorossiysk. The Black Sea Economic Cooperation Zone will come into operation very soon. The extent to which these ports are involved will largely determine the resolution of the numerous social and economic problems facing Russia's Black Sea coast.

With the consul general's help, several Turkish firms were recently launched in Sochi. A regular Istanbul-Sochi air service is already in operation, and Istanbul businessmen have agreed to the modernization of hotels and the opening of joint stores. They are also prepared to establish similar relations with Moscow: All it needs is the will on the part of our capital's authorities and entrepreneurs.

The Declaration on Black Sea Economic Cooperation is intended first and foremost to ensure Russia's security on its southern borders. The declaration will operate at both governmental and nongovernmental level. After it is signed, working groups will be set up to draw up proposals for the formation and organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Region. Meetings of

the foreign ministers of countries in the Black Sea region are planned at least once a year. A joint investments bank is to be set up. Provision is made for:

- freedom of movement of people and capital;
- freedom of exchange of goods;
- freedom of services;
- no visas for participating countries.

It remains to be hoped that once the region is formed, trade will become free, tourism will develop of its own accord, and following the completion of the building of a belt highway around the Black Sea, freedom of movement will be established for all inhabitants of the region.

One last point. The creation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Region is aimed at improving the ecological condition of the Black Sea, which, as is well known, is currently disastrous.

A second, more important avenue is the preparations by Istanbul business for the expansion of the port of Novorossiysk. For instance, the Istanbul firm "Boomerang" is already prepared to cooperate with Novorossiysk. "Boomerang" could receive substantial credits from the world's banks for the modernization of the port. For greater efficiency, a Samsun-Novorossiysk ferry could be used, so as not to have to ship freight through the Bosphorus. Here Russia gains access not only to Turkey, but to the Arab countries too. By using this sea route our state will save some \$30 million.

The signing of the Declaration on Black Sea Economic Cooperation by the heads of the Black Sea states sets up a world enterprise zone both for experienced—meaning Turkish—businessmen, and for the new Russian businessmen. The prospect of establishing civilized market relations should prove and is already proving attractive to Russian entrepreneurs. Thus in May, at the invitation of the Istanbul city authorities and business circles, representatives of the Russian "Odessey" Association of Black Sea Economic Cooperation visited the city. This association was the main initiator, on our side, of the Novorossiysk port modernization. Its visit to Istanbul showed that they are preparing seriously for this project. Agreement has been reached with "Boomerang" on drawing up a joint project for the modernization of the port, the opening of joint stores in Novorossiysk, and the creation of information bureaus in both Russia and Istanbul.

Irish Ambassador Comments on Relations, Trade

LD2506203592 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1608 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By *ITAR-TASS* diplomatic correspondent Sergey Skripnikov]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—"As far as the relations between the Russian Federation and Ireland are concerned, they are good at present, and the prospective for the future is very good indeed. At the same time the

potential in the relationship has perhaps not been capitalised on to the extent that is possible," Patrick McCabe, the ambassador of Ireland in Moscow, said in an *ITAR-TASS* interview, conveying his point of view on the state of diplomatic and economic relations between Russia and this West European country.

"As regards the economic relations between the two countries, there is a difficult but profound process of economic transformation under way in the Russian Federation," the high-ranking Irish diplomat said.

"As long as that transformation is still in its early stages, perhaps the economic potential for greater cooperation in both directions will not achieve what one would hope.

"Nonetheless, there is a substantial Irish involvement in joint ventures in retailing in the Russian Federation," the ambassador said.

"Russia is sending fuel oil and some industrial goods to Ireland. We would like to see Russia sending more goods to Ireland," he said.

Speaking about obstacles to a more active economic cooperation, McCabe pointed to "payments difficulties for Western companies doing business here".

The diplomat said that Mary O'Rourke, Irish minister of state for industry and trade, during her recent visit to Russia discussed the Russian debt to Irish companies with Deputy Premier Aleksandr Shokhin.

"There is what is becoming, unfortunately, a long-standing problem of payments overdue to Irish companies," the ambassador said. These are not huge payments and amount to several million pounds but the Irish side "would like a political effort made on the Russian side to try to clear these payments in order to give the Irish companies greater confidence about doing business here."

Monies which are owned by Irish companies involved in joint ventures and which were frozen by the Vnesheconombank were mentioned by McCabe among factors affecting economic relations.

"Trade is a two-way business. Ireland is doing better out of the trade than Russia at the moment," McCabe said. "I think we should work together in building up the economic relationship. But a lot will obviously depend, in my view, on how soon successes begin to be achieved in the economic transformation of the Russian Federation economy along market lines".

Italian Party Members' Moscow Training Noted

LD2106194892 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1734 GMT 21 Jun 92

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Aleksey Golyayev]

[Text] Rome June 21 TASS—Russian Prosecutor General Valentin Stepankov, who just returned from Italy, said the

Italian Communist Party (ICP) had sent its members to Moscow for training in clandestine activities.

Stepankov was in Italy to investigate if the now defunct Soviet Communist Party's (CPSU) financial support to the ICP was illegal.

"We are not investigating party activities of former Soviet or Italian communists. We are looking for the facts which fall under the articles of the criminal code. There is no crime in international assistance by one party to another. But we want to find out if this assistance involved only party funds or the CPSU took them from the state budget and handed them out to 'fraternal parties'," Stepankov said.

He was in Italy in accordance with the agreement reached by former Italian President Francesco Cossiga and Russian President Boris Yeltsin last December to provide Italian law-enforcement bodies with documents on the CPSU's financial assistance to the ICP.

Stepankov said his team had studied documents for the last ten years and handed over to the Italian side excerpts from resolutions of the party politburo and receipts signed by Italian communists confirming such assistance. He said, however, he doubted that the money can be recovered.

Stepankov also said the ICP sent its members to Moscow for training in clandestine radio communications, covert message sending and disguise. He said several groups had undergone training in Moscow in 1970, 1974, 1976 and later. Stepankov denied Italian press reports that they had been taught terrorist tactics, adding that there was no evidence they belonged to Red Brigade terrorists in Italy.

Peaceful Greenpeace Demonstration at UK Embassy

PM2206091992 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jun 92 p 1

[K. Belyaninov report: "Don't Forget to Put the Cuffs On"]

[Text] From very early in the morning, a group of activists from the international ecological organization Greenpeace blockaded the military post at the gates of the British Embassy and chained themselves to the fence. The military personnel, permitted to leave their guard posts, were in turn shown the demands of the people attached there, and supported them fully.

After handcuffing one of the ecologists by the wrists, Greenpeace Moscow representative Dmitriy Litvinov explained to assembled embassy personnel that this action was part of a campaign being pursued by Greenpeace in Britain and was aimed at halting the production of weapons-grade plutonium and securing the closure of nuclear installations at Sellafield.

"Russia is now a much more democratic country than England. Here the movement's activists are admitted to

yesterday's secret cities without objection, but in England they even ban peaceful demonstrations," he said by way of explanation.

An hour after the action started the British ambassador received the Greenpeace representatives. Having explained that it was not within his competence to resolve this question and that he was new to Moscow anyway, the ambassador promised nevertheless to inform the government. After this explanation, the ecologists unchained themselves and went about their business.

According to the military personnel, all the people who attached themselves to the fence conducted themselves quietly and did not disturb public order.

New Ambassadorial Appointments Reported

PM2606081592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 25 Jun 92 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Appointments"]

[Text] Mikhail Alekseyevich Romanov has been appointed Russian Federation ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Kyrgyzstan by Russian Federation presidential decree.

Viktor Viktorovich Posuvalyuk has been relieved of his duties as Russian Federation ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Iranian Republic by Russian Federation presidential decree in connection with his transfer to other work.

Aleksey Aleksandrovich Obukhov has been appointed Russian Federation ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Kingdom of Denmark by Russian Federation presidential decree.

Valter Aleksandrovich Shoniya has been appointed Russian Federation ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Azerbaijan by Russian Federation presidential decree.

Ministry To Recheck for Presence of Afghan POWs

OW2406134592 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1311 GMT 24 Jun 92

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Although there are no Afghan POWs in Russia the Russian Foreign Ministry, responding to the recent appeal of the Afghan leaders, has started a second check on the documents which can clear this problem out through the channels of competent bodies, a Russian diplomat in charge of Russia's relations with Afghanistan told DP [Diplomatic Panorama].

He said that the Mojahedin raised this question back in 1988 when the first official contacts were established with them. At that time, the first check was made and its results were presented to the Mujahedin. "Of course,

there can be no talk about thousands of POWs, as Afghans claim. Life shows, however, that there may be archives about which very few people know. The Russian Foreign Ministry was motivated by this particular consideration when it started a second check," the Russian diplomat said. He also said that the absence of Afghan POWs does not mean that there are no Afghans, who have committed crimes, in Russian correctional labour institutions or prisons.

According to his sources, about 25 Afghans convicted for smuggling, rape, theft and other crimes, are serving terms in the CIS. More than half of them are in Russia.

Russia To Undertake POW Search in North Africa

LD2506172892 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
0915 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Roman Zadunaitskiy]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—Russia is not only going to look for U.S. POWs and MIAs on its territory, it is also interested in the fate of its soldiers who fought in the British Army in northern Africa during World War Two. A special state and public commission will be created in the near future to clear up the affair, Aleksey Novotochinov, a Russian parliamentary expert, told TASS on Thursday [25 June].

A lot of Red Army soldiers and officers who escaped from Nazi concentration camps but were afraid of Stalin's repressions awaiting them at home joined the British Army in its fight against General Erwin Rommel in 1942-1945, he said. Many of them participated in the defence of the Tobruk Fortress which was an important event of the campaign.

Soviet repatriation commissions, dealing with Soviet citizens who fought in the British Army and POWs used by Rommel in constructing fortifications, worked in 1945 in the Iraqi city of Basra and the Iranian town of Resht. However, there are no reports about the mission. A noted Russian doctor, Fedor Talysin, who headed the Number 20 Sanitary and Epidemiological Unit instructed to receive POWs in Basra and Resht did not tell about his mission even to his family.

Novotochinov believes the secrecy might mean that the POWs were killed by the NKVD [People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs] secret police, however, he admits they could have been transferred to Soviet Gulag and died there.

There is no doubt that Russian soldiers fought in the British Army and "we have asked British authorities and the Russian security ministry to help clear up their fate", Novotochinov said.

Foreign Ministry To Study Business Methods

PM1106141392 Moscow *ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA*
in Russian 9 Jun 92 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Business and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs"]

[Text] The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has tasked more than 140 Russian missions abroad with studying world experience in the support of small and medium-sized businesses. A statement to this effect was made at a briefing in Moscow by B. Sorokin, director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Department of Regional Cooperation and Economic Problems. The materials gathered by the diplomats will also be used in elaborating the relevant Russian legislation. The ministry has also entered into talks with the EC Commission concerning the possibility of technical aid being allocated to small and medium-sized enterprises. An agreement has also been reached with a number of UN organizations.

In B. Sorokin's words, the Foreign Ministry would also like to involve Russian businessmen in the solution of the problem of repaying other countries' debts to the former Union, now owed to Russia, since all attempts to resolve this issue at the state level have produced no results.

Federation Affairs

Yeltsin: Army Never To Be 'Blind Instrument'

LD2506190792 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service*
in Russian 1803 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Sergey Ostanin]

[Text] Moscow, 25 Jun—A reception for graduates of military academies was held today in the Great Hall of the Kremlin Palace. Traditionally held in June, it was in its own way unique. For the first time the Russian Defense Ministry organized it. The graduates of its military schools will reinforce the Russian Armed Forces. By instruction of the Russian president, who at that time was at talks in Istanbul, his address to the graduates and the professorial—lecture staff was read out by Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian defense minister.

"The country is living through a critical period of its renewal," the address says. "All the problems are more acute, the burden of everyday life is great. The general situation today is being aggravated by the worsening armed conflicts in areas close to the borders of Russia." All problems, even the most complicated and neglected, should only have a peaceful solution, the president's message stresses. The country will never throw its compatriots who are becoming hostages of political adventurism to the arbitrariness of fate.

"The Russian Army in the Russian state was not and never will be a stepdaughter, just as it will never be a

force hostile to the people, a blind instrument in no matter whose hands," the address says. "The citizens of Russia see you as its reliable protectors, faithful to their constitutional duty, oath, and the democratic state." The president expresses confidence that the armed forces will bear the lofty title of Russia with honor, and that they will give birth to traditions and increase the glory of the Russian Army.

The question of how to revive Russia and how to strengthen its Army's defense abilities worried a number of the reception participants. We will be able to achieve this only with a mighty, highly trained, and professional Russian Army, noted Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, who spoke at the reception. A compact, collective, precise and clear-cut interaction, and high combat readiness are needed.

"A cheap army is a bad army," Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, said to the officers. "Our Army must be professional, well trained, and well provided for. My colleagues and military commanders share this view". According to Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, the opinion which was expressed by him in the corridors of the Grand Kremlin Palace is that the main task now is "to form a mighty, highly mobile, and strong army in the shortest period of time so that no one dare watch us from a position of strength."

Neither democratic nor economic transformations can be carried out in Russia without the consolidation of all public forces, just as the Russian Armed Forces cannot be formed without the preceding condition. This thought was the leitmotiv of speeches delivered by the graduates of military academies, generals, and admirals of the Russian Armed Forces in the Kremlin today.

More on Government Program for In-Depth Reform

Ulyukayev Comments

*OW2506190692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1806 GMT 25 Jun 92*

["Cover Story" from the 26 June "Business Report": "Government Colleagues Approve Yasin's Program"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On June 25th, the expanded assembly of colleagues in the Russian government approved a program for further economic reform (for 1992-1995) which was developed starting in March of this year by a group under Yevgeniy Yasin's leadership. Aleksey Ulyukayev, an economic adviser to the Russian government, said on Thursday [25 June] at a press conference that the document proposed "did not cause any principle objections" by the colleagues who, in his words, introduced "only personal observations."

The program with the proposed corrections should be approved in its final draft at a government meeting next Tuesday, June 30th. The program emphasizes structural

privatization, the partial liberalization of foreign economic ties, and changing the system for hard currency regulation. These measures will be introduced shortly. Private property will play a big role in stabilizing the country's economic system. The program calls for the three-stage development of the Russian economy, in which the state economic policy will change priorities during each stage.

* During the crisis development phase the main priority will be liberalization and financial stability. In order for this stage to be successful, goods with regulated prices should not make up more than 2-3% of GNP, state ordered goods should not be more than 20% of GNP, the budget deficit should not exceed 3% of GNP and the rate of inflation should be no higher than 3-5% a month. To fight inflation, there are plans to introduce a convertible ruble for current accounts.

* The second stage should be the resurrection of the economy on the basis of private enterprise and through granting financial privileges to investors. Criteria for this include that the state sector not be more than 40% of the economy, more than 10% of trade, and that the share of credits given to private business reach 70% of the total amount of credits granted.

The third stage of development should lead to the reconstruction of the main branches of industry and the stable growth of the economy at a rate of 3-4% a year, reaching a positive balance of payments and stepping up foreign trade and increasing exports.

According to the program, some of the first measures to aid the economy include:

1. The transition to having one exchange rate (the state will also buy hard currency at the market rate).
2. Rejecting the mandatory formation of a republican hard currency reserve. The budget will have the same rights as other hard currency buyers.
3. Enterprises will have to sell 50% of their hard currency earnings to any Russian contractor including exchanges, banks and the state (the government sees its main task as concentrating hard currency in the country's internal market).
4. Cutting back the list of goods licensed for hard currency. Only energy products and two or three kinds of chemical goods will be granted such licenses.
5. The transition to a strictly competitive way of distributing foreign credits, excluding those projects which the state is interested in supporting and plans to invest in directly from the budget, such as in medicine and the social sphere.
6. The creation of an investment bank to accumulate foreign investments and those special credits which Russia will receive from international organizations.

The program for economic reform has proposed the top priority branches needing investments. These include the oil and gas industry, food, housing construction and converting the defense complex. The largest share of state and foreign investments will go to these areas.

Investments in enterprises up for conversion should help the development of five programs: energy, health care, medicine, ecology and communications. The government program also calls for the development of agricultural processing and an orientation towards small private enterprises located throughout the main agricultural regions. There will also be increased support for private farms. The program calls for the development of a banking system and for a secondary securities market.

(For a more detailed review of the financial, agricultural, and foreign trade aspects of the program, see INTERFAX's specialized weeklies: Oil, Gas & Coal Report, Financial Report, Agricultural Report, and Trade and Investment)

Nechayev on Industry's Role

*OW2506183792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1742 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In his interview with "IF" [INTERFAX] the Minister of Economy Andrey Nechayev made comments on a new so called middle-term economic programme destined to speed up realization of economic reforms, according to its initiators. Thursday [25 June] this document with a few remarks was passed by an expanded session of the Russian Government. The final variant of this draft programme is expected to be adopted at a session of the Russian Federation Cabinet next Tuesday, June 30.

The document, which is to take under control economic development of this country for three years, consists of nine sections. The minister, in particular, said that this programme emphasizes the structural activating of the economy. New measures for partial liberalization of foreign economic relations and changing the system of currency control are defined in this document in a new manner. These measures are supposed to be implemented in the near future.

The following concrete steps are envisaged in this programme: a transfer to a common currency exchange rate (the state will buy currency from enterprises and private persons according to a market exchange rate); refusal from an obligatory formation of the republican currency reserve [as received]. So the budget will be an equal agency in procurement of currency. The enterprises are to sell 50% of the currency profit. All these measures are aimed at retaining the currency on the domestic market and at strengthening the market.

The programme envisages that licensing will touch upon only fuel and energy and two or three kinds of chemical goods. A transfer to a competitive distribution of the foreign credits has also been planned. Several projects of interest to the state make an exclusion (medicine, social sphere). Donations for these projects will be channelled directly from the budget.

A number of measures for drawing foreign investments are also being developed. A state investment bank is planned to be created under the auspices of the Minister of Economy. Its task is to accumulate the internal non-budget sources of investments.

According to Nechayev, it is high time to show "definite toughness" in the economic relations with the former USSR's republics. The republics wishing to remain in the rouble zone must adhere to those rules of the credit and emission policy which Russia is implementing.

The Minister stressed that Russian Federation will predominantly channel its domestic and foreign investments into the oil and gas industry. In the near future this sphere is expected to be the basis of the Russian export potential.

Ulyukayev Denies Imminent Currency Reform

*LD2506155192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1517 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Podyapolskiy]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—Aleksy Ulyukayev, economic adviser to the Russian Government, denied rumors that the Cabinet of Ministers in the near future is taking measures affecting money circulation in the country. Commenting on the rumors agitating Muscovites that all banks received secret packages to be unsealed June 26, he said at a briefing today the ministry plans only measures on the regulation of non-cash settlements between enterprises and "how to overcome the non-payment crisis".

As to rumors about a currency reform or other measures affecting citizens' interests, there are no plans for such, Ulyukayev said. "Such measures are both unpracticable and unnecessary now as they run counter to the essence of the government financial policy", he said.

Central Bank Concurs

*OW2506181992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1454 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Deputy-Head of the Russian government's Finance Department Anatoliy Baryshnikov said that the Central Bank's offices had not received any instructions from the Russian president. He made this statement commenting on the information to the effect that Boris Yeltsin's letter had been sent to the Central Bank's offices with the instruction to open this letter on June 26.

No information pointing to such plans has passed either through the government's Finance Department, or through the Commission for Monetary Circulation, led by Yegor Gaydar, said Baryshnikov. He also said that neither the government nor the Central Bank had sent such letters or known anything about them.

Shokhin Says Currency Shops To Stay Put

OW2506122692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1800 GMT 24 Jun 92

[transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Deputy Russian Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin has denied speculations about the impending closure of hard currency shops in Russia describing them as "misinterpretation" of Mr. Yeltsin's decree on foreign trade liberalization.

In a speech at the World Economic Forum in Moscow on Wednesday [24 June], he said currency shops were unlikely to be abolished in the next two years, although it was a government-cherished goal. However, he said these shops would have to sell both for hard currency and rubles, albeit setting their own rates of exchange. In his view, the shops will be playing the role of exchange offices for some time.

Resolution Prepared on Hard Currency Operations

OW2506201492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1929 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian government prepared a draft resolution determining the procedures for hard currency operations on the territory of the Russian Federation as of July 1, and preserving the existing laws on hard currency trade, has in mind the gradual shift to the internal convertibility of the ruble. [sentence as received]

The draft states that legal entities can sell goods, labor and services for hard currency "with permission from the Central Bank of Russia". In so doing they must establish prices for goods in rubles as well "at an independently determined rate". Rubles must be accepted in payment for goods with "no limitations".

The draft of the government resolution also establishes that "Payment for the realization of purchases by residents is conducted only in rubles".

Government Resolution To Boost Internal Affairs

PM2506152992 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 26 Jun 92 First Edition p 5

[Russian Federation Government Resolution No. 408 signed by Ye. Gaydar and dated 20 June 1992: "On Strengthening Russian Federation Internal Affairs Organs"]

[Text] With a view to improving the protection of citizens' rights and legitimate interests, ensuring proper law and order in the Russian Federation, enhancing the efficiency of internal affairs organs in the fight against lawbreaking, and strengthening their personnel, material, and technical potential, the Russian Federation Government resolves that:

1. The number of internal affairs organ staffers will be increased by 43,000 in 1992 and by 50,000 in 1993, and at the same time a quota of 521,208 at 1 July 1992 and of 571,208 for 1993 will be set for the number of internal affairs organ staffers maintained out of the Russian Federation republic budget.

The allocated extra numbers will be channeled into expanding subunits fighting organized crime and economic crime, criminal investigation, detection, expert criminology units, and operational units and other militia services. The Russian Federation Finance Ministry will ensure the financing for the numbers allocated.

The Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs will be instructed to find funds in 1992 for the maintenance of some of the additionally allocated number of internal affairs organs' ordinary and leadership personnel (up to 15,000).

2. The Russian Federation Ministry of the Economy, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Trade and Material Resources, together with the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs, will:

ensure the priority allocation to the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs of quotas for capital investment and material, technical, and food resources for centrally regulated output (goods), as well as the continuous financing of measures to combat crime and protect law and order;

elaborate within three months and submit to the Russian Federation Government a state program for the phased resolution of the questions of material and technical backup for internal affairs organs' operational and official activity in 1993-1995;

prepare within one month for subsequent submission to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet proposals on granting tax privileges to enterprises at corrective labor institutions, occupational therapy rehabilitation centers, the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs' "Okhrana" Association, and enterprises and organizations which have concluded contracts with Russian Federation internal affairs organs for the delivery of output and material, technical, and food resources;

submit to the Russian Federation Currency and Economic Council by 1 July 1992 proposals on resolving the question of allocating foreign currency funds for the purchase of specialized imported equipment for internal affairs organs, and of using some foreign loans for these purposes.

3. The executive organs of republics within the Russian Federation, krais, oblasts, the autonomous oblast, autonomous okrugs, and the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg will:

take measures to strengthen the public security militia (local militia), ensure the stability of the financing of the militia staff funded out of the budgets of republics within the Russian Federation, local budgets, or the funds of

enterprises, institutions, and organizations, and to enhance the level of material and technical supply and the social development of internal affairs' organs;

swiftly ensure the implementation of the rights of internal affairs organ staffers to receive subsidies for housing construction and to buy housing, as well as other rights envisaged under existing legislation.

[signed] Ye. Gaydar

[dated] 20 June 1992, No. 408, Moscow

Border Troops To Be Set Up in Sumy Oblast

LD2506155392 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] A border is appearing between Russia and Ukraine. Anatoliy Yepifanov, representatives of the Ukrainian president in Sumy Oblast, stated that soon a group of border troops will appear there. Altogether, it is planned to set up six border commandant's offices in Sumy Oblast.

Guards on Azerbaijan Border May Cause Problems

LD2506160792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1447 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—Russian border troops, which are being created according to a presidential decree, will first be deployed along borders with the Baltic states and Azerbaijan. However, the establishment of a guarded border with Azerbaijan might cause serious problems, according to commander of the border troops Vladimir Shlyakhtin.

The Lezgin people live on both sides of the Russian-Azeri border and they will get separated by border guard posts between the two former Soviet republics, he told a press conference on Thursday [25 June].

The problem, as well as all other border issues will be settled by corresponding bilateral agreements, it was noted at the press conference.

The future of Russian border troops stationed in Georgia has not been yet decided on. Georgia, which is not a Commonwealth member, has not asked to withdraw the troops, Shlyakhtin said.

Nikolay Golushko, Russian first deputy security minister, believes most former Soviet republics should have "transparent" borders the way Russia and Ukraine agreed to do during the recent summit in Dagomys. Presidents of both countries decided that there will be customs checkpoints only, and no border guards.

Defense Industry Could Halt Economic 'Tailspin'

LD2506170192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0713 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—Russia's defence industry can help halt the economy's tailspin although up to 70 percent of scientists and designers have quit it, believes Vladimir Gladyshev, vice-president of Russia's League of Defence Enterprises. An interview with Gladyshev, who is Doctor of Sciences, is published in the newspaper TRUD.

Gladyshev emphasises that for the defence sector to exist in new economic conditions, it is necessary that a military doctrine of the state be elaborated, the priority areas in the development of armaments defined and the resources of the economy that can be marshalled be estimated from the scientific point of view.

At the same time, he notes that the law on military production conversion has already been enforced in the country but "this law is hollow, has nothing to rely on and is therefore inefficient."

Gladyshev believes the funds set aside by the state for carrying out conversion are inadequate. He thinks about 150 billion dollars are needed to beat swords into ploughshares. "One direction in solving this problem could be the introduction of tax benefits for enterprises converted for civilian use," he said. "In this case, the greater part of profits will remain on enterprises' special accounts thus stimulating and financing the increase in the production of consumer goods."

Gladyshev said that due to the state's go-slow policy, proceeds from the sale of defence industry output diminished from 12-13 billion dollars to 3.7 billion a year lately. The sales market also shrank by 75 percent.

At the same time, if export is organised differently, Russia could reap up to 30 billion dollars a year from the commission sale of defence systems and their servicing.

As for the goal of the league that was formed last year, Gladyshev emphasised that it works to preserve the scientific-technical potentials of enterprises, their staff, stabilise and achieve a rise in defence plants' economic standard.

Servicemen's Union Does Not Expect Radical Cuts

OW2406123492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1130 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to the independent union of servicemen, during the next three years the Russian armed forces will not undergo any radical cuts. The strength of the armed forces will be gradually decreasing at the expense of cuts in the enrollment to military schools and in the number of recruits.

Vice-Chairman of this union, Andrey Goptar, informed IF [INTERFAX] that a number of programmes for retraining the retired officers and providing them with housing and jobs have been drafted. He also noted that in line with the housing programme, the stock of the Russian Defence Ministry's land fund will be taken. Presumably, the defence ministry has about 20 million hectares of land.

In view of the contemplated cuts in the auxiliary forces, the union intends to set up repair and construction joint-stock societies on the basis of engineers' units, involving military-construction equipment. Goptar believes that to ensure the programmes success it should be given a state status and discussed by the parliament. A draft of this programme has been sent to Boris Yeltsin and Defence Minister Pavel Grachev.

Credit Advanced To Convert Aerospace Complex

OW2206225192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1925 GMT 22 Jun 92

[From the 23 June "Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian government has set aside 800 mn [million] rubles of credit for the Polyot aerospace complex in Omsk, one of Russia's most important producers of military aircraft. Reliable sources have informed INTERFAX that the money is earmarked for starting up production of the AN-74 all-purpose passenger aircraft, which is capable of landing on unpaved runways and the icy decks of sea-based research stations. The first AN-74s will be assembled before the end of the year. Plans call for the production of up to 80 aircraft a year.

The Polyot complex has received another \$108 mn of credit to begin production of automatic washing machines, a joint Russian-French venture.

Paper Said To Report Rally Violence in Advance

PM2506152792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 25 Jun 92 First Edition p 1

[Aleksandr Golubev report under the "Falsehoods and Truths" general heading: "Tomorrow's Scandals Are Written Today"]

[Text] Gennadiy Feklichev, chief of the Administration for the Defense of Social Order under Moscow's Internal Affairs Main Administration, summarized the results of an operation to clear pickets from the squares around the Ostankino Television Center at a news conference held in the Russian Internal Affairs Ministry. He categorically denied reports that people had died at the hands of the OMON [special purpose militia detachment] 22 June, calling such rumors provocation and stressing that the militia had acted in strict compliance with the law on that day: First, the pickets had violated a number of conditions placed on their protest by the city authorities;

and second, by their actions they were encroaching on the rights of television workers.

According to information from the law enforcement organs, medical institutions in the capital admitted 76 people with various injuries 22 June, including 28 militia officials. Seven were kept in hospital. In all, 49 militia employees received injuries of varying degrees of severity at the hands of "peaceful" pickets in different parts of Moscow (Ostankino, near the "Rizhskaya" and "VDNKh" subway stations, and on Prospekt Mira.)

G. Feklichev reported on a quite curious incident. In his words, even on the morning of 22 June copies of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA for 23 (!) June were on sale on the square in front of the television center carrying accounts of "yesterday's" atrocities by the OMON against peaceful citizens. He added that several copies were acquired by militia workers (priced at anything up to 15 rubles per copy.) The SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA representative attending the news conference preferred to remain silent. G. Feklichev added that the militia will take legal action against the newspaper.

'Premature' Story Charge Rebutted

PM2506154992 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 25 June 92 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Colonel Feklichev 'Exposes' Newspaper...—'Tomorrow's Scandals Are Written Today'"]

[Text] ..."G. Feklichev (acting chief of the Administration for the Defense of Social Order under Moscow's Main Internal Affairs Administration—editor) has reported a quite curious incident. According to him, even on the MORNING [capitalization as published] of 22 June copies of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA for 23 (!) June were on sale on the square in front of the television center carrying accounts of 'yesterday's' atrocities by the OMON [special-purpose militia detachment] against peaceful citizens. He added that several copies had been acquired by militia workers (priced at anything up to 15 rubles per copy). The SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA representative attending the news conference preferred to remain silent. G. Feklichev added that the militia will take legal action against the newspaper." (ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, 24 June 1992) [filed from 25 June First Edition].

The militia colonel, having tripped up on such a flat surface, is prompting feelings of sympathy for us, the people whose rights he is obliged to defend professionally and zealously in the performance of his duty. It would have been worth his while to make a telephone call at that news conference—no, not to SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, that infamous conspirator—but to the "Pressa" publishing house, where it would have been explained that his "version" about the premature appearance of our newspaper is totally absurd, the stuff of a pretty bad joke. Incidentally, information about when a newspaper edition is signed off is available not at

the editorial office but at the print works. The 23 June edition was signed off 22 June at 1800, as reported by the publishing house in the publication details.

There is nothing to be said about our colleagues at ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA—we work in neighboring workshops. But if we really wanted to hit back at them, much could be said on the subject of honor....

Incidentally, our correspondent S. Shevtsov did not in fact stay silent at the news conference—he spoke out....

Chief Editor Cites 'Political Blackmail'

MK2506102192 Moscow KURANTY in Russian
25 Jun 92 p 1

[INFORM-KURANTY report: "Minister or Editor?"]

[Text] Pavel Gusev, MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS chief editor and Moscow Government minister of information and propaganda, has received a warning from the Russian Prosecutor's Office regarding the inadmissibility of his holding these two posts simultaneously. The Moscow Soviet Press Center has announced this.

Roughly three months ago the Moscow Soviet asked the Moscow Prosecutor's office to inform P. Gusev of the need to comply with Article 9 of the Russian Federation's antimonopoly legislation. However, the prosecutor's office ignored this appeal.

The Moscow Soviet press center announcement claims that "if he gives up any post, he will keep the post of chief editor whatever the cost." A. Baranov and A. Popov, press center staffers, think that if Yu. Luzhkov decides to "reshuffle ministers," this may be the reason given for Gusev's dropping from his ministerial post.

However, Pavel Gusev, whom your KURANTY correspondent telephoned, described this report as political blackmail against the editorial office by the press center in retaliation for MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS' refusal to publish information. P. Gusev also said that he does not receive any remuneration as a minister and is willing to defend his rights in court.

Radio, TV Broadcasting Law Previewed

OW2606011992 Moscow Central Television First
Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT
23 Jun 92

[Studio interview with Aleksey Georgiyevich Samokhvalov, member of the authors' team drafting the Russian television and radio broadcasting law, by P. Orlov and I. Zaytseva; from the "Utro" program—live]

[Text] [P. Orlov] We have decided we can finally discuss our own problems—namely television—especially since they concern not only us inside this building, but as recent events have shown those who are standing outside. There are many reasons for this. Television is not just another means of mass information, and this is

probably the reason that a law on television and radio broadcasting is being prepared—on Russian territory, at least. Therefore we will talk today with Aleksey Grigoryevich Samokhvalov, a member of an authors' team which is preparing a draft of this law. He is the chief editor of an information bulletin OKNO V MIR, and is representing the aforesaid creative team which, judging from the documents I have seen, has been working for about a year and a half.

[Aleksey Georgiyevich Samokhvalov] Yes, this work has been going on for a year and a half, and it was just this Saturday that the GOLOS newspaper published excerpts from our draft law. I think our viewers will be interested in acquainting themselves with it.

[Orlov] Let us briefly present your suggestions on the future of television. Will it still be a government monopoly, and if so to what extent?

[Samokhvalov] If our Supreme Soviet votes for it, the monopoly will be destroyed. It is suggested that organizations under any type of ownership, private persons, and of course the State will be able to hold a license for television and radio broadcasting.

[Orlov] Today it is possible to register means of mass information with the Ministry of Press and Information. Will television broadcasting be covered by the same or by a different system?

[Samokhvalov] A specialized organ called the Federal Commission for Television and Radio Broadcasting is to be formed, and it will deal with the question of licenses.

[Orlov] Why must a separate commission be formed?

[Samokhvalov] The authors of the draft law wanted to develop the idea of creating a fourth independent power, and this federal commission will be a sufficiently independent State organ. Candidates will be presented by the president and the Supreme Soviet. During the six years of their tenure, they will have sufficient opportunity to express their opinion independently.

[I. Zaytseva] Will journalists be guaranteed free expression of their views on the screen?

[Samokhvalov] Unfortunately not all journalists know that such guarantees already exist in the current Russian Federation law on mass information.

[Zaytseva] I am referring to the Russian Federation draft law on television.

[Samokhvalov] It does not mention journalists as such, but only television and radio broadcasting organizations.

[Orlov] Does this draft contain any guarantees against situations such as we have now? I am referring to attempts to storm the television station, demanding time on air. Are there such guarantees?

[Samokhvalov] I think once the license is issued, there will be no need to storm the Ostankino television station. There will be a real chance for independent broadcasting.

[Zaytseva] But in such a case, the people who appear on the air will still have an opportunity to present their ideas and propaganda.

[Orlov] Heaven knows what they will say.

[Samokhvalov] In such a case, they will be held responsible in accordance with the law on mass information. If someone spreads slander, they may be held responsible for it. Nor under present laws, under different laws.

[Zaytseva] Why is it that such an important draft law appears only in the GOLOS newspaper? Should it not be open for public discussion? Not everyone will be able to read and understand it; it should have been disseminated.

[Samokhvalov] My co-authors empowered me to take care of the publication, and I have turned to several publishers, state publishers among them, but have found no support. Questions were raised as to the payment for this publication, and there were other problems too. The only newspaper to publish it free of charge was the GOLOS newspaper.

[Orlov] How will broadcasting look when the law on television and radio broadcasting is adopted?

[Samokhvalov] I think the state license holder will leave the frequencies and the broadcasting times as they are, and the first, second, third, and fourth programs will still belong to the state television and radio company. But even our regular receivers have 12 channels, so there is the possibility to satisfy many organizations.

[Zaytseva] So broadcasting frequencies will be offered for sale to private people?

[Samokhvalov] Not for sale. They will be able to get a license for broadcasting on a certain frequency. A certain fee will be collected.

[Orlov] Could I afford it?

[Samokhvalov] This question will be probably decided by the government.

[Orlov] What sums are we talking about? A symbolic 300 ruble fee for the license, and 300 million for the paperwork? What about the equipment?

[Samokhvalov] I think this sum will be compatible with the mass information registration fee, that is around several thousand. We do have frequencies which are not efficiently used by other state organizations—such as the Ministry of Communications, the Ministry of Defense, and so on. This will be dealt with, and a list of frequencies will be published in the information bulletin of the Federation Commission, after which everyone can join in the bid for the purchase of a license.

[Orlov] When will the draft be heard?

[Samokhvalov] The current session will conclude work on 10 July, but I think the draft will be discussed there.

[Orlov] This means that additional work will probably be completed by fall, after which the draft will be examined again....

[Samokhvalov interrupting] Most likely it will be adopted by fall. Maybe even sooner.

[Orlov] So everything we have talked about will be relevant by fall, or maybe even following the fall session.

[Samokhvalov] Yes, we have to work today in order to....

[Orlov interrupting] In order to make tomorrow better.

[Samokhvalov] Yes.

[Orlov] Aleksey Grigoryevich Samokhvalov, a member of the authors' team for drafting the Russian law on television and radio broadcasting, which will later be submitted to the Supreme Soviet. Thank you.

[Samokhvalov] Thank you too.

Newspaper Distribution Cost Increases Viewed

PM2506122792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Article by Ivan Zhagel: "Newspapers Are not a Luxury but May Become One Unless There Is Control over Monopoly Price Formation"]

[Text] At a recent news conference Russian Deputy Minister of Communications B. Butenko it was said that recently press distribution services charges have increased threefold. But here everything depends on the period with which the comparison is made. If it is with the beginning of this year then the most recent tariffs for the majority of newspaper and journal distribution operations have increased more than tenfold. And according to B. Butenko they will increase still further by the end of the year.

As a rule the Ministry of Communications leadership explains the increased cost of services by the deterioration of the economic situation in the country, which is also reflected on their position. For instance, they connect the biggest increase in their tariffs, carried out in late May, directly with the increase in prices for energy carriers.

Here is just one example, cited by V. Polyakov, chief of the Russian Ministry of Communications press distribution department: This year expenditure on "payment for the transit of mail cars" was planned at 600 million rubles [R]. That figure was agreed with all interested sides. But after prices for energy carriers increased, the railroad workers demanded a further R1.2 billion for just one item of expenditure.

In brief, the increase in the communications workers' rates is an inevitable process. Nonetheless a question does remain unclear: Where is the borderline between the objective growth of prices and price tyranny? And in general who should draw up rights for communications enterprises' services, and how?

The point is that at the beginning of the year in pursuing a policy of releasing prices the Russian Government was quite tough in restricting the growth of the Ministry of Communications enterprises' job prices. At the time maximum rates for increasing the cost of their services were set. But now there is no such control from the government. And, for instance, the Russian Ministry of the Economy prices committee approves job prices only for those services of the communications workers which they offer to budget-funded organizations and the population and basically affect the delivery of letters, printed matter, and parcels. The distribution of the press is not on this list.

At any rate, the recent rates issued to publishing houses at the end of May were not only not worked out but were not approved either by the government or the prices committee. Their author was the "Rospechat" [Russian Main Administration for the Distribution of Printed Materials] central retail and subscription agency, which sent them straight to the publishing houses. And in V. Polyakov's opinion that is an absolutely correct system since the publishing houses and editorial offices have started to work on a commercial basis and consequently mutual relations with them should be commercial.

All that is so, except for one "but," to wit: In the sphere of the distribution of the press we have had and still have a monopoly. Therefore the activity of the communications enterprises should without fail be viewed through the prism of antimonopoly legislation which also provides for prices restriction.

Incidentally, in his February decree "on additional measures for the legal and economic protection of the periodical press and state book publishing," the Russian president instructed the ministries and departments to prepare within a month a program for the demonopolization of the distribution of the periodical press. I stress, within a month. But to this day nothing has been heard of it, not to mention the fact that there are no signs of its implementation.

And if you take the republic's economy as a whole we have still not created antimonopoly committees at various levels and we do not have the relevant base for establishing standards. Therefore railroad workers and airmen can raise prices for their services endlessly and following them communications workers can do the same, turning newspapers and journals into luxury items.

As for the viewpoint of the Russian Ministry of Communications leadership of the problem of the artificial increase in prices, V. Polyakov formulated it thus: Any commission can check the level of labor expenditure at

our enterprises right up to compiling a 'photograph of the working day' and be persuaded that the rates we have set are fair. At any rate they enable the communications enterprises to obtain a minimum profitability level.

But can the unreliable instruments of our recent economic past that are a photograph of the working day and labor expenditure norms be used to justify the efficiency of work under new conditions? There is no doubt that the only objective arbiter here can be the market, and if it cannot show itself because of the existence of monopoly structures then rates for commodities and services in this sphere should nonetheless be formed or approved by an outside organization.

Incidentally, there is an excellent example showing that if under the conditions of the retention of the monopoly on the distribution of the press the formation of prices for their services is entrusted to the communications workers independently, we received very dubious results. Thus, during the May increase in rates the "Rospechat" central retail and subscription agency established that as of July this year the mail departments will take 10 percent of the nominal cost of a newspaper or journal for accepting a subscription and the paper-work involved. In addition for shipping subscription copies from the printing press, the dispatch enterprises will take a further 6.3 percent of the cost of the publications they ship.

A very strange system is thus taking shape whereby the incomes of enterprises of the Ministry of Communications will depend not so much on the volume or weight of the printed matter they ship and not on the quality or timeliness of the distribution of newspapers and journals but merely on the total cost of the latter. This kind of thing exists hardly anywhere in the world. In addition the result is that the press now seems to be liable to one more tax, but a tax imposed not by parliament but by the communications workers and consisting of 16.3 percent of the cost of the publications. And such paradoxes will undoubtedly continue to be encountered if under market conditions monopoly structures retain complete freedom of action when forming prices for their commodities and services.

Christian Broadcasting Convention Envisioned

*LD2506170492 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English
1203 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Khabarovsk—On June 23, a conference of World Christian broadcasting officials adopted a resolution to set up the Russian Christian Broadcasting Convention.

The chairman of the board of the Western-Siberian Christian Mission Aleksandr Melnikov reported to PF [POSTFACTUM] that the conference, held between 22-26 June, was attended by the officials of the Christian broadcasting stations from Russia (Moscow,

Novosibirsk, Khabarovsk) as well as by those from Australia, Great Britain, the USA and Germany.

According to Melnikov, the officers of the Far Eastern Broadcasting Corporation International (FEBC Int., USA) have approved the initiative of a number of protestant organizations of the Church of the Evangelical Christian-Baptists (CECB) of the Russian Federation from Moscow and Novosibirsk to open regional broadcasting centers in those cities. The Siberian agency with the center in Novosibirsk was named Sibia, the European one with the center in Moscow—Eura. According to Melnikov, the decision of the officers of the broadcasting associations of the world Christian broadcasting to admit the Russian Christian Broadcasting Convention and its branches in Moscow and Novosibirsk to the FEBC is of cardinal importance for the development of the world and Russian networks of Christian broadcasting. As the head of the FEBC Int. Russian section Rudy Wiens reported to PF, it was envisaged that Sibia in August-September, 1992 would start a two-hour daily foreign broadcasting service to a number of countries of Southeast Asia and the Middle East (Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Indonesia, Mongolia, etc.) becoming in this way the first Christian broadcasting station in the former USSR, broadcasting to foreign countries. According to Wiens, the setting up of the international broadcasting station in Novosibirsk is economically feasible from the point of view of transmitting radio programs with their subsequent retransmission to other countries via the broadcasting station of the Island of Saipan (USA). Melnikov reported that it was intended to broadcast from Siberia both in Russian, for the Russian-speaking population of the region, and in the languages of the indigenous peoples. According to him, as of autumn of 1992, Sibia will start broadcasting in the Tuva language, then the agency intends to broadcast to Altay, Nanay, Khakass and other ethnic audiences. For instance, a correspondent office of the Sibia is already functioning in Ulan-Ude, developing programs in the Buryat language. Melnikov reported that the Novosibirsk broadcasting station intended to lease the equipment of the Novosibirsk Production Broadcasting and Communication Corporation (PORR-11), and in future intended to obtain the equipment (studio and powerful SW [shortwave] transmitters) from FEBC Int, which, according to Wiens, would be purchased in the USA with voluntary donations of the worshippers and religious organizations. According to Melnikov, the contents of the domestic Russian and foreign broadcasting will have an extra-denominational nature and will be based on the principles of universal Christian morality. It is planned to make use of religious and secular information, distributed through the channels of the World Christian Broadcasting, that of other international information services, as well as reports on the religious and secular life of the Siberian region for the programs. Melnikov reckons that it is not ruled out that in the near future the CECB broadcasting stations will meet with stiff opposition in the struggle for the Russian audience on the part of the Orthodox broadcasting

stations, currently being set up, but he argues that the need for religious broadcasts in the Russian Federation is so acute that there will be enough audiences for all.

New Trade Union Press Association Founded

*LD1906102492 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 0700 GMT 19 Jun 92*

[Summary] A Russian trade union press association gathering approximately 80 newspapers and specialist publications has been founded. Its president is (Leonid Sobolev) who explains that the association aims to create a news agency to supply trade union members. Its income will come from advertising. Employment opportunities and ways of increasing one's qualifications will be among the subjects covered in planned publication.

Government Data Exchange Service To Be Instituted

*PM2206090592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 17 Jun 92 First Edition p 3*

[Unattributed report under the general heading "The Government Has Resolved": "Communication Without Waste"]

[Text] The Russian Government has adopted a resolution on an automatic data exchange system to operate between the organs of executive power, the president's administration, and the government apparatus.

The bureau for supplying data to the president's administration will be accorded the functions of general purchaser. Therefore, it will pay for the acquisition of technical resources and for services related to the exchange of data. But in the meantime, it needs to compile a list of subscribers to the system and work out a procedure for paying expenses linked with the transfer of data along international and intercity communications channels.

For these purposes, the bureau will be granted 6.5 million rubles from the government's reserve fund in 1992.

The Finance Ministry is entrusted with making provision next year to apportion budget allocations to develop the system.

INTERFAX Data on Budget Revenues, Expenses

*OW1806205992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1836 GMT 18 Jun 92*

[From the "Statistical Data" section of "Trade & Investment"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Key Figures Relating to External Economic Activities in the Budget of the Russian Federation for 1992 (in millions of rubles)

	quarters				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	year
REVENUES					
Export duties	198,237	101,000	60,000	60,000	419,237
Interest revenues from government credits extended to governments of foreign countries	5,000	600	1,900	1,900	9,400
Ruble equivalent of centralized foreign exchange funds	—	—	25,017.9	25,017.9	50,035.8
Other revenues	213	213	213	213	852
TOTAL REVENUES	203,450	101,813	87,130.9	87,130.9	479,524.8
EXPENDITURES					
Expenditures on purchasing foreign exchange for repaying interest on external debt and for centralized imports	137,500	87,500	95,450	95,450	415,900
Total other expenditures	57,652	14,115	39,666	41,918	153,351
Of which:					
financing of transactions related to granting free aid to foreign countries	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
- membership contributions to international organizations	552	549	6,100	8,350	15,551
- other expenditures (Fund for Regulation of External Economic Activities)	56,100	12,566	32,566	32,568	133,800
- of which subsidies for medicines, medical equipment, and babyfood	—	—	20,000	20,000	40,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	195,152	101,615	35,416	137,368	569,251
BALANCE OF BUDGETARY REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES	+8,298	+198	-47,985	-50,237.1	-89,726.2
RESULTS OF CREDIT TRANSACTIONS	—	+12,119	+41,589	+36,892	+90,600
OVERALL RESULTS	+8,298	+12,317	-6,396	-13,345	+874

Results of External Credit Transactions in 1992

	quarters				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	year
REVENUES					
Receipts from government credits extended to governments of foreign countries	4,400	695	1,985	1,985	9,615
Credits extended by governments of foreign countries	5,000	1,850	5,550	5,550	17,950
Long-term credits extended by foreign banks	10,800	10,800	32,400	32,400	86,400
Commercial credits extended by foreign firms	4,050	17,350	52,350	52,350	125,800
TOTAL REVENUES	24,250	30,695	91,985	92,285	239,215
EXPENDITURES					
Expenses related to extending government credits to governments of foreign countries	10,000	9,250	27,750	27,750	74,750
Repayment of credits extended by governments of foreign countries	2,250	6,660	19,980	24,975	53,865
Expenses related to repayment of interest on funds borrowed for miscellaneous transactions	12,000	2,666	2,666	2,668	20,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	24,250	18,576	50,396	55,393	148,615
RESULTS FOR THE BUDGET	—	+12,119	+41,589	+36,892	+90,600

The balance of revenues and expenditures related to external economic activities forms an essential part of the draft of the budget for 1992 presented by the Russian government to the Supreme Soviet.

The budget's target figures related to external economic activities in 1992 were computed in accordance with the recommendations of the IMF with respect to budget classifications and methodology of compiling the budget.

The amount of export tariff revenues was computed on the assumption of exports reaching \$25bn [billion], the proportion of dutiable exports amounting to 60%, and on the basis of an expert estimate of the duty averaging 35% of external prices. The estimate of export duty revenues in terms of rubles proceeded from the exchange rates of Rb[ruble]100 to the dollar for the first half of the year and Rb60 to the dollar for the second half of the year.

The amount of budgetary expenditures under credit transactions related to extending credits to foreign countries was calculated on the basis of requests by the

Ministry for External Economic Ties with respect to exports of military hardware and special equipment, as well as requests by the foreign trade association Energomashexport with respect to exports of equipment and trips of specialists to construction projects. The contract prices were translated into rubles on the basis of the following exchange rates: Rb5.4 to the dollar for the first quarter, Rb20 to the dollar for the second quarter, and Rb60 to the dollar for the third and fourth quarters.

The same ratios were used in computing quarterly government expenditures on the settlement of accounts of enterprises which export goods to former socialist countries to repay the credits they extended to the USSR to finance construction projects on its territory.

The same ratios were used to translate the foreign exchange contributions to international organizations into rubles. The overall sum of such contributions is Rb15.5bn, of which Rb14.3bn to the UN.

The foreign exchange acquired for the Republican Currency Reserve was earmarked to defray the following expenses (Rb bn):

- external debt repayments	83
- freight expenses	24
- food purchases	62
- purchases of medicines and medical equipment	180
- expenses for social and cultural purposes	4.5
- defence outlays	4
- expenses of production association Surgutneftegaz	6
- preparations for the spring sowing campaign (seeds, fertilizers, accumulators for farm machinery)	1
- expenses by the Central Bank (foreign exchange interventions)	2
- expenses by the Foreign Trade Bank (settlement of debts arising from customers' bills)	5
- other expenses (components for the Industry Ministry, the State Administration for the Issuance of Banknotes, etc.)	30
- man-made transactions	14

The calculation of the sum of expenditures on the acquisition of foreign exchange from exporters proceeded from the following assumptions:

- approximately 70% of the total amount of export revenues, estimated at \$25bn, is to be sold to the state;
- enterprises are to sell 40% of their foreign exchange revenues;
- the foreign exchange revenues are purchased by the state at the rate of Rb60 to the dollar.

Other Expenses section includes provisions to the Fund for Regulation of External Economic Activities, whose main purpose is to subsidize the most indispensable consumer goods (medicines, some foodstuffs, and some goods for children). These products may be sold to consumers for prices computed on the basis of an exchange rate of the ruble substantially above its market rate. Rb40bn is earmarked for subsidizing medicines. Rb93.8bn is budgeted for subsidizing centralized imports upon the recommendation of the Economics Ministry.

First Quarter Foreign Trade Balance Viewed

PM2406090392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
18 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "The More We Buy, The Less We Sell"]

[Text] The following table illustrates current trends in Russia's export and import activity.

[Column A shows Russian exports in January-April 1992; Column B shows Russian imports in January-April 1992]

	A	B
Volume in U.S.\$	10.7 billion	11.4 billion
Corresponding period of 1991	82 percent	112 percent
By direct ties with foreign partners (U.S. \$)	715 million	744 million
Including joint ventures	251 million	269 million
Capitalist countries' share	70.7 percent	76.8 percent
Including developed countries	56.7 percent	64.1 percent
Former socialist countries	29.3 percent	23.2 percent

The table, compiled from statistics provided by the Russian State Committee for Statistics, characterizes the overall volumes of commodity turnover. As for individual types of goods, the following figures are noteworthy. Energy sources accounted for over 50 percent of total exports. Oil exports in the first four months of the year amounted to 18.9 million tonnes, or 4.5 percent less than in the corresponding period last year, gas was down by 4 percent, coal was down by 5 percent, machines, equipment, nitrogen fertilizers, and paper pulp were down by 1.5 times, and oil products, iron ores and concentrates, cement, pig iron, lumber, phosphoric fertilizers, and TV sets were down 100 percent.

Grain purchases in January to April were 13.8 million tonnes, or 75 percent more than a year ago, purchases of textiles were worth \$202 million (2 percent higher), and purchase of medicines were worth \$638 million (2.3

times higher). Imports of quick-frozen meat were 91,000 tonnes, a reduction of 32 percent, coffee imports were 9,300 tonnes (38 percent down), and sugar imports were 910,000 tonnes (12 percent down). Machines and equipment worth \$3.1 billion were imported, or 26 percent less than a year ago.

Russia's overall foreign trade balance in January-April was negative—by \$748 million—whereas in the same months of last year it was positive, to the tune of \$2,785 million.

Tambov Representative Criticizes Government

LD2106181992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1229 GMT 20 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Russkiy]

[Text] Tambov (Central Russia) June 20 TASS—On the whole acting in a right direction, Gaydar's "team" has committed tactical mistakes, which have led to a serious destabilization in the society, this is the opinion expressed by Russian President Boris Yeltsin's representative in the Tambov region, Valentin Davitulyaniy.

What constitutes the main mistake of the government is the pressing high taxation and highly expensive credits, which have equally crushed all, including private entrepreneurs, and manufacturers of most essential goods, he wrote in an article entitled "Why We Are So Poor?" published today in the local "TAMBOVSKAYA ZHIZN" newspaper.

The agriculture industry is at present on the brink of a catastrophe, because due to very high prices of machinery, spare parts and building materials soon there will be nothing left to reap the harvest with, neither to repair farms with nor to construct houses, the author said. According to Valentin Davitulyaniy, by appointing Yegor Gaydar as acting chairman of the government, President Yeltsin has made it clear to the whole world that he is not going to back off from his reform programme.

Observer Sees Gen Makashov as 'National Leader'

PM2406113592 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 23 Jun 92 p 1

[Eduard Volodin "Political Observer's Notes": "History Will Decide"]

[Text] Social tensions in the country are growing. The more persistently and cynically the Yeltsin-Gaydar provisional government drives the Russian people into the abyss of poverty and hopelessness, the stronger the resistance of the humiliated and abused becomes and the more vigorously the opposition strives for unification. Try as the "democratic" agitprop might to drum into the population's heads the old tale about the opposition as a collection of partycrats, Stalinists, and "brownshirts" who have come from goodness knows where in Russia, everyone now knows that this antinational and antipopular regime is opposed by the widest range of political

parties and public movements and organizations for which the salvation of Russian statehood, the survival of the people, and national uniqueness are far more important values than ideological and theoretical postulates.

Now the confrontation is between national forces and the antinational regime, between those who favor a strong state and the political-economic compradors who have temporarily seized power. The hysterical anti-Russian and antistate nihilism that has gone on for seven years has made healthy forces among the people realize that we have reached the final frontier, where we must stand and fight to the death. As happened in the Great Patriotic War, when atheists and Orthodox believers, communists, nonparty people, and those who hated Bolshevism together defended the homeland and independence.

Confrontation is a reality and the ruling regime is responsible for that. Since September 1991 the opposition has repeatedly talked of the need to create a government of national accord, but were those behind the August-December political coup actually interested in preserving national peace and state independence? They had their own antinational, antipopular, antistate objectives, and the liberalization of prices convincingly demonstrated that the people were at the bottom of the "democratic" regime's scale of values. The fraternization with nationalists and racists in the former union republics confirmed that in its political actions the regime placed national interests in quotation marks. The practice of trading in the country's interests, of which Yeltsin's trip to the United States should be regarded as the epitome, demonstrated better than any criticism that the antistate actions are no accident at all, but a deliberate program of actions to break up and destroy Russia. That is why the question of a government of national accord has now been shelved and the opposition's principal task must be to create a "shadow" government or committee of national salvation. Once again I repeat: Not to seize power for power's sake, but to ensure the survival and revival of nation, people, and state.

The mass deception media keep on saying that the opposition has no intellectual potential, no programs, no leaders. If that were the case, A.N. Yakovlev would long ago have ordered Ye. Yakovlev to give the opposition air time to enable it to discredit itself through its gross stupidity. No air time has been given, which shows that they fear the truth, the profound understanding of what is happening in the country, and the opposition's proposed ways out of the catastrophe. In fact, over the few years of the perestroika orgy and in the stagnation years that preceded it a national opposition made up of various political and ideological currents took shape, the concepts of national-state revival were drawn up, and leaders of parties and movements were created. Okay, so the programs and ideologies often conflicted with one another, and still do. Okay, so the political statements differ in terms of the phrases they use and the definition of the ultimate goals of the struggle. But all that now takes a back seat, giving way to the opposition's common idea of the two constant, fundamental values which are

higher than any ideology or political doctrine—the survival of the nation and state integrity and independence.

That is why scarlet and black, gold, and white banners, St. Andrew's standards, and dark red gonfalons bearing an image of the Savior flutter in equality and harmony at rallies, protest demonstrations, and pickets. This kind of unity does not emerge for the sole purpose of overthrowing the government. It takes supreme national-state ideals and values to create this unity. Only great anguish over an abused Fatherland and great hope for its salvation can unite every ethnic Russian, every inhabitant of Russia who is loyal to his ancestors' behests and committed to the people's future. The opposition has united harmoniously and naturally, although not without difficulties, and has found the only possible platform, the essential platform for common action for the sake of national-state salvation.

But the unification of opposition parties and movements has also had a specific effect in terms of the creation of a "shadow" cabinet or committee of national salvation (the name does not matter at the moment). The leaders of each organization have been determined, each organization has its own "nerve center," and each organization is ready and able to delegate representatives to the cabinet or the committee. Common principles are now being agreed on to bring the country out of its catastrophic state, and the talks show that the entire opposition political spectrum is capable of active participation in drawing up and implementing national-state salvation programs. A skilled and nationally oriented government could be set up now, and experts on all problems of economic, intrastate, and foreign political activity have already submitted their studies. The opposition parties' and movements' political consultative council has the job of approving the platform of unity and joint action.

This is where the problem actively speculated on in the "democratic" media arises. The people are being told that the opposition has no leader, that this bloc of political parties and movements cannot have a leader. It is an old song. For six years they belloved that there was no alternative to Gorbachev. They belloved so much that they managed to "counter" him with one of his colleagues and kindred spirits, Yeltsin, who continued and is successfully completing the dismantling of the state started by Gorbachev, the dismantling of the economy, the destruction of national values and objects of veneration. Now they are droning on about there being no alternative to Yeltsin, while quietly considering Volskiy or Rutskoy as a replacement on the way to casting Russia into historical oblivion.

The opposition also appreciates the role of a national leader, although it does not attach paramount importance to this issue. Each of the leaders of opposition parties and movements possesses personal courage, extensive erudition, political horizons, and an intellectual potential which, put together, will enable any of them to be a member of or to head the "shadow" cabinet or national salvation committee.

It is another matter when the national-state catastrophe reaches the point where political programs or ideologized manifestos become trivial or almost meaningless. In these conditions, the only possible national leader is one who stands above political passions and ideologies. He must execute the national will for life and the state idea of stability and independence. He must want power for the sake of national-state salvation. He must have the great courage to make national decisions and have the strength of character to carry out these decisions. He must be a man of honor, so that the nation that puts its faith in him knows that the decisions made by the national leader are entirely selfless. He can be a person of any persuasion, but, as a national leader, he must appreciate that the nation and the state cannot be revived without reliance on the traditional forms of spirituality and the people's ideals wrought by historical experience.

One could name several leaders who possess to one degree or another the qualities of an individual of national dimensions. Time, events, the people themselves will choose, and it could be that someone whose name is unfamiliar at the moment will become the national leader. But at the present very complex stage of the struggle for the salvation of the state and the people I see in the form of General A. Makashov the person most capable of uniting all Russian patriots, one who has the will and courage to preserve a great power and revive in full the life of all the Russian peoples.

History will decide.

Prisons Chief Discusses Conditions, Amnesty

OW2306053792 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Studio interview with Major General Yuriy Ivanovich Kalinin, chief of the Internal Affairs Ministry's Main Directorate for Implementation of Sentences, by Mikhail Solntsev; from the "Utro" program—live]

[Text] [Solntsev] For every crime there should be a punishment, and the guest of our program, whom I will introduce presently, has the most direct connection with punishment. Here is Major General Yuriy Ivanovich Kalinin, chief of the Internal Affairs Ministry's Main Directorate for Implementation of Sentences. Good morning, Yuriy Ivanovich.

[Kalinin] Good morning.

[Solntsev] Generally speaking, you have a direct involvement with punishment, but now we will talk about release from punishment; please tell us about the amnesty.

[Kalinin] We will talk about the amnesty. Yesterday, 18 June, the Russian Supreme Soviet adopted the resolution on amnesty. This resolution has been expected for long time, but several of our newspapers have already erroneously publicized that there will be no amnesty. Yesterday this act was adopted. What is stipulated by the

act? Approximately 20,000 people will be released simultaneously from detention centers.

[Solntsev] What categories of convicts are they?

[Kalinin] This is the category of convicts who are serving time for insignificant crimes with sentences of up to three years, and those who have served one third of their sentences by the effective date of the adoption of the amnesty. About 40,000 convicts will receive reductions in their sentences.

[Solntsev] Tell me, Yuriy Ivanovich, public opinion often contends that there already is a high level of crime, and that now with the announcement of the amnesty, there will be another jump in crime with the release of former prisoners who will resume their former criminal trade. Is that so?

[Kalinin] I do not think this is so. The reason that work on this decision took a long time was that the pros and cons of this resolution were very seriously considered. I do not think that the cold summer of 1953, or the amnesty that frightened many people in 1987 awaits us, although, through our experience with amnesty, recidivism among the pardoned is not very high in comparison with the usual trend. Specifically, after the 1987 amnesty, recidivism reached only 3 percent.

[Solntsev] If it is not a secret, how many prisoners are there at present in jails or colonies in Russia?

[Kalinin] We currently have 560,000 convicts in Russian jails.

[Solntsev] What are prison conditions like? There have been many reports in the press and on television that the conditions for convicts are extremely very uncivilized. Do you agree with this point of view?

[Kalinin] If you say extremely far from civilized countries, I must say that our society, on the whole, is also far from those conditions that other civilized countries enjoy. We can only support our wards in accordance with the means provided by our state. Of course, we are trying to do a lot to change the conditions of implementing sentences, and much is being undertaken in the legislative plan. Recently, a law on the labor code was changed, and resolutions at government levels were adopted. Many enforceable enactments were changed in the Internal Affairs Ministry, but all this requires enormous material support.

[Solntsev] Tragically, there are reports about certain disorders in prisons. Do you have any information; do they happen often; and how serious are they?

[Kalinin] I have to admit that toward the end of last year there was such a wave of group excesses, hunger strikes, and a disregard of the administration's demands. We had such actions also this year, but they were not mass disorders, as they are being described. What provoked them? First, it was because there were no changes in the legislation for a long time, and there was a delay in adopting the amnesty resolution about which we are speaking today. In general, in the majority of cases, our

wards complained about these very issues. Now, with the adoption of the law and of the amnesty resolution, I think that the situation will stabilize.

[Solntsev] I will remind our viewers that our guest is Maj. Gen. Kalinin, Chief of the Internal Affairs Ministry's Main Directorate of Implementation of Sentences. I have some more questions. What is the situation of your staff that guards, or oversees, the convicts? It is said that their wages are extremely low, that people do not want to work in the prisons, and that this is a big problem because there is no one to guard the convicts.

[Kalinin] The problem with staffing, of course, is an extremely serious one for us; however, the government and the Internal Affairs Ministry leadership has recently taken sufficiently serious steps to retain our staff. A decision to raise wages has been made. On 1 June, a resolution for a second increase was signed, and another increase is expected in August 1992. All these measures have made it possible to stabilize our staff a bit. Speaking of the guards, the Department of Internal Troops, there are complications here with the call-up contingent and very serious complications, of course.

[Solntsev] Now that the USSR has disintegrated and no longer exists, there is an exchange of convicts in progress between the former republics of the Soviet Union. How are you exchanging those convicts who are imprisoned here in Russia but belong in, let us say, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, or some other republic?

[Kalinin] Yes, we are solving these issues. First, proceeding from the prisoner's rights—now that he is separated from his relatives by borders and now that there are various other complications, such as not being able to receive aid or parcels and cannot expect visits—we have signed a number of agreements on the handover of such convicts to those countries, specifically Ukraine and Kazakhstan, and reached agreements with Byelarus, Uzbekistan, and a number of other former republics of the CIS countries.

[Solntsev] How many such convicts are there in Russia at present?

[Kalinin] In total, there are about 25,000 such convicts in Russia at present; however, we have already returned a few thousand, and by the end of the year all of this will have been completed.

[Solntsev] So far, we have been speaking about prisoners in Russia who come from the neighboring countries, but what about those who are from further away? Do we have prisoners from foreign states?

[Kalinin] Yes, we have. In accordance with the law, citizens from other countries who have committed a crime in Russia serve their sentences here. At present, we have approximately 140 such people who are serving their sentences. When they complete their punishment, we send them to their homeland.

[Solntsev] For my last question, I would like to ask you to return to the amnesty issue. I would like to ask you to

tell us, in more detail, about the categories of short-term convicts who would be released. Who are they, old people, young people?

[Kalinin] The amnesty encompasses, first, those who have participated in war, women, men older than 60, women older than 55, underage first offenders with terms of under three years, and underage convicts with three-five-year terms who have served one third of the punishment. Speaking of the preparation of the resolution, the initiator of this work was the Internal Affairs Ministry. It might be strange for some of our listeners to hear that the militia, which usually incarcerates, was one of the initiators. We are grateful to the legislative, law and order, and human rights committees who have done a big job in preparing this resolution and decided the issue of its adoption.

[Solntsev] I thank you for answering the questions for the "Utro" program on the amnesty that was announced yesterday, 18 June [date as heard], and some of the problems of convicts and jails. Our speaker was Maj. Gen. Yuri Ivanovich Kalinin, chief of the Internal Affairs Ministry's Main Directorate for Implementation of Sentences. Thank you, Yuri Ivanovich.

[Kalinin] You are welcome.

Implications of Farmers' Strike Examined

PM2606083792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
24 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Article by Yelena Yakovleva: "It Is More Beneficial for the Peasant To Trade Than To Strike"]

[Text] The ultimatum presented to the government by the recent meeting of representatives of the Agro-Industrial Complex Workers' Union and the Agrarian Union of Russia is approaching its deadline.

If the government does not agree to economic concessions, that is, if it does not introduce price controls for industrial enterprises, does not abolish or reduce value added tax, does not pay agricultural producers compensation to meet the "price disparity," and does not repay the hard currency debt for grain and oil seed sold to the state in 1990-1991, the most resolute measures have been threatened: There will be strikes and a food blockade of the cities.

A strike in the countryside is hard to enforce. You cannot stop milking cows and you have to harvest the grain, otherwise it will cost you dear, too. You can refuse to sell milk and meat to the cities, but where will you store it? As a rule, the kolkhozes have no cold stores or processing facilities. Yu. Korolov, Moscow oblast agriculture minister, recently described how the capital punished the Moscow region: For several days it accepted no milk. This was a most severe blow to the country people.

The cold stores in the cities and rayon centers are full now and food stores have been laid in. Therefore, a refusal to sell will hit the countryside harder than the city. Consequently,

we should expect measures more in the nature of a demonstration than a strike, for example, a convoy of tractors advancing on the White House. Perhaps this will make the government give back to the countryside the hard currency debt from the year before last at least and boost the prestige and standing of the Agro-Industrial Complex Workers' Union (rural workers, unlike the miners, do not have informal strike committees). That, surely, is all it will achieve. The government will scarcely agree to price restraints, the abolition of taxes, and major credit concessions because that would effectively mean repudiating the course of reforms.

If the strike takes place it will most probably not lead to major changes in peasants' economic position.

The confrontation between rural producers and the government could begin a little later—at the end of summer or in the fall. Probably this would have a less dramatic effect than a strike but would be far more fundamental to us all.

An interesting picture has developed in agriculture this year. Livestock production is falling but crop production, especially grain, is rising. In spring the area sown was 1 million hectares more than last year. A good harvest is expected. Grain is not a "capricious" product, it will keep a long time and will not go off if left awhile. It gives the peasant scope for give and take with the government on sales and prices.

But there is total confusion over purchasing policy here right now. V. Khlystun recently announced that the state is competing to buy less than one-third of the peasant harvest and the rest will go on free sale to commodity markets. On the other hand, representatives of one of the largest grain markets stated at a recent news conference that the state will need at least two-thirds of the harvest and will get it one way or another, thereby echoing the union government's state order (requisitioning) policy despite its stated declarations. However, insufficient funds have been allocated for purchasing at the moment: This means that grain will be "taken" at an understated price, not at the market price.

In agrarian circles they are saying that the peasant will not sell grain above the agreed amount to anyone. He will ignore the "crazy" price and demand a hard currency "top-up" for his grain, otherwise he will wait until winter and go in for barter deals.

Agro-Industrial Trade Union Advocates Reform

LD2606051592 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 0700 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Summary] A plenary session of the central committee of the trade union of the workers of the agroindustrial complex has started work in Moscow today. Nikolay Semenovitch Gusin, secretary of the central committee, said in an interview that the plenum is to define the strategy of trade unions vis-a-vis current problems of low wholesale prices, low pay, and undefined land ownership.

The trade unions ought to get more involved in day-to-day production and management of agriculture, as well as agriculture-related legislation. Unlike grassroot farmers, who are strike-prone, the trade union advocates the way of reform and is putting pressure on the government to develop a comprehensive program of the development of the agroindustrial complex.

Trade Unions Urge Interstate Economic Links

LD2506173492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0904 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Yegorov]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—The Trade Union Associations of the power-engineering, oil-and-gas, construction, chemical, car-making and other key sectors of industry have urged the heads of government of the Commonwealth member-states "to take specific and immediate measures to implement the Minsk agreement on trade and economic cooperation in 1992."

The appeal signed by the leaders of the Trade Union Associations points out that putting into effect this agreement that envisages the restoration and development of inter-state economic links "is being impermissibly delayed". At the same time, the scale of barter and foodstuffs exchange is growing, restrictive sanctions and bans on the import and export of products continue to be in effect. The paralysis of financial settlements was added to the rupture of economic links and enterprises' unpaid bills have reached a catastrophic proportion. The continual surge in prices becomes unbearable both for enterprises and the population.

In this situation, the sectoral trade unions insist on setting up without delay a mechanism for implementing the Minsk agreement and on this mechanism's effective functioning. "Otherwise, the destiny of the reform will be decided by economic realities: Stoppages of enterprises, mass unemployment, spontaneous migration, the growing lumpenisation of the broad sections of the population and the aggressiveness and bitterness of hungry people that attends it."

The appeal also contains a demand that the governments of the Commonwealth member-states ensure the timely payment of wages to workers in the production sphere as the shortage of cash "heats up the already tense social situation in worker collectives."

Trade Unions Welcome Result of Dagomys Meeting

LD2506211792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1850 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Yegorov]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—The General Confederation of Trade Unions (GCTU) welcomed the results of the Dagomys meeting between the presidents of Russia and Ukraine.

A statement issued by the GCTU points out that "the resolution of contentious issues between the two states will serve to bring about and strengthen a peaceful atmosphere throughout the territory of the former Soviet Union, in which the working people and trade unions of all countries of the region are vitally interested and which the GCTU repeatedly called for".

The GCTU considers it "utterly important" for social problems, such as employment, labour conditions, the protection of the natural and industrial environment, labour migration of the population, and the provision of workers' pensions, to take a worthy place in the elaboration of a bilateral treaty on a future relationship between Russia and Ukraine."

The trade union confederation is prepared to "cooperate and give consulting assistance in the elaboration of decisions on this kind of matters".

"Aware of the importance of Russo-Ukrainian relations for the entire situation in our region, we consider it our internationalist duty with regard to the trade unionists of CIS countries to promote as far as possible the development and strengthening of these contacts," the GCTU statement emphasises.

Study Shows Birth Rate Drops, Death Rate Rises

LD2506193792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1528 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Veronika Romanenkova]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—Russians are not likely to increase in numbers soon, according to specialists of the Social Demography Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences. They have completed a special demographic analysis which has revealed that the population of ethnic Russians and the entire population of the Russian Federation are not likely to increase in the next 10-20 years. Although the population of the Russian Federation is not yet showing signs of diminishing, the growth rate is tending towards zero.

An analysis of the possible trajectory of the birth rate evolution indicates that it would be completely impossible to avoid the beginning of the reduction in the overall number of people inhabiting Russia, Professor Leonid Rybakovskiy who heads the centre, told ITAR-TASS.

On average, 196,000 fewer people will be born every year. It remains to be seen at what pace this reduction will proceed thereafter and when it will be first registered by statistics: The worst forecast version expects the drop to occur at the end of the 20th century, a more optimistic version says the fall-off is likely to begin by the year 2015.

However, the decline in birth rate is not the only demographic problem facing Russia. The growth of the death rate which was first registered in the second half of the eighties has by now affected all the three Slav republics of the former Soviet Union. Russia has been the worst hit. With its life expectancy Russia ranks with

the developing countries. The main reason is the increasing death rate among able-bodied men, a high-risk group in Russia. Chronic diseases claim ever more lives, shifting towards ever younger age groups.

"At the present stage of decline in the birthrate, society has increasingly limited possibilities for influencing the demographic behaviour of the families," Rybakovskiy said. "This is why the state should not so much seek to stimulate new births as to assist low-income families and mothers. In addition, the government should direct its efforts to protect mothers and babies and overcome the increase in the super death rate of the able-bodied males connected with traumas".

Mandatory Unemployment Insurance Set for 1993

PM2606101592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
22 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Tatyana Khudyakova: "Everybody Must Be Insured Against Unemployment"]

[Text] It is most likely that this type of insurance will be introduced on a mandatory basis as of January 1993, although the relevant articles are contained in the Law on Employment approved by the Russian parliament back in the spring of last year. Draft clauses on the employment fund and instructions on the procedure for levying and calculating contributions were ready as of today. As soon as both documents have been approved by the republic Supreme Soviet, preparatory work to introduce mandatory and voluntary unemployment insurance will begin.

Employment Committee Deputy Chairman Oleg Slavutskiy says: "This measure will have serious social consequences, and not just because it is in line with world practice. It is an additional source of finance for the state employment program. The money being channeled into the employment fund today, and which amounts to 1 percent of the wages fund, is only sufficient to pay unemployment benefit to some 1-1.5 million people. According to the most optimistic forecasts, the number of unemployed could reach 4 million by the end of this year."

Furthermore, the regions where unemployment will reach higher than average indicators are already apparent today. They are the major industrial cities of the Urals and the so-called "numbered" closed cities. There is insufficient money coming into the employment fund from these territories nowadays to pay out benefits. Consequently, some kind of reserve is required. It is proposed that it be formed on two levels—federal and local—and partly via insurance contributions.

The republic parliament is faced with approving deduction norms for this type of mandatory insurance, but the situation today is already such that "setting aside" anything less than 3 percent of the wages fund will be

impracticable. It is expected that not only employers but the workers themselves will be obliged to deduct 3 percent out of their wages.

It is most likely that this sum will be deposited in personal accounts so that, if a situation covered by the insurance arises (loss of job and registration at the employment service as unemployed), it would be possible either to increase the size of benefits or to extend the period of payment without help from the budget.

In order to prevent the new form of mandatory payment from prompting a rise in the cost price of products and reducing the real value of workers' wages, it is proposed to "cram" contributions into the framework of sums already being deducted by enterprises and individual citizens in the form of taxes. In other words, it is a matter of the redistribution of resources rather than additional taxes.

And there is one more important detail which merits the attention of employers. If they fail to register as insurers and deduct the mandatory contributions for unemployment insurance, their workers will be considered uninsured.

Although it is nobody's intention to rob people of their right to benefit, regularly deducted contributions must be the guarantee of payment. A whole range of measures are envisaged to increase employers' liability for failing to make mandatory payments to the employment fund on time.

Incidentally, the important role of monitors could be undertaken by the trade unions, which have become so extraordinarily infatuated with calls to strike nowadays.

Youth Organizations Urge Federal Youth Policy

LD2606051192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Boris Saltykov, Russian deputy prime minister and minister of science, higher education, and technological policy, had a meeting today with representatives of youth organizations. At their meeting, which took place within the framework of the "We Wish To Be Heard" action, the sides agreed that there is a need for a special federal youth policy. It should be conducted by a definite state structure, for instance, a committee attached to the government.

Before the meeting scheduled for 20 July between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and representatives of youth organizations, work will be conducted on the program proposed today, ITAR-TASS notes.

Voltskiy on Government Economic, Trade Policies

AU1806192992 Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT
in German 17 Jun 92 p 12

[Report by Klaus C. Engelen: "The Old Western Loans Were Mostly Eaten"]

[Text] Duesseldorf—"Despite considerable differences of opinion, the political center in Russia, which is pragmatically oriented and dominated by experts, basically supports the market economy reform program supported by President Boris Yeltsin through Yegor Gaydar, who has now been appointed acting head of government." This is the view of Arkadiy I. Volskiy, president of the Industrial Association of the Russian Federation and chairman of the conservative-leaning "Renewal Party," in an interview during his visit to Germany organized by the new center for German-Russian Economic Cooperation, Duesseldorf-Moscow.

According to Volskiy, the appointment of the contested economic policy chief adviser as head of government, which was announced by Yeltsin before his departure to the United States, is only "a first step because the Russian Parliament still has to confirm the appointment." In view of the violent controversy over the shock reform pushed through by Gaydar, confirmation by the parliament "will not be easy," Volskiy intimates.

On 21 June, he, as chairman of the "conservative-leaning" Renewal Party, will also take over the chairmanship of a collective movement of the democratic center, under whose roof several party groups "want to concentrate their forces." For example, the Democratic Party of Russia, which is brought in by Vice President Rutskoy, will bring voters from the military and many regional administrative forces to the new collective movement. The party founded by Travkin, former director general for the construction industry, will bring other reform-oriented blocs of voters to the democratic and reform-oriented party alliance. "It is complete nonsense to interpret these new party groups as a maneuver to prepare the communists' return," said Volskiy, who is angry at recent German press reports.

According to Volskiy, the reform program developed by the IMF with the responsible people in Moscow can "only be really implemented if, together with the price liberalization, the institutional reorganization, that is, above all the reduction of monopolist production and distribution structures in the Russian economy, is advanced at the same time."

On the one hand, "the monopolist structures in production and distribution in the Commonwealth of Independent States are even worse than can be imagined in western market economies." The profits made by higher prices are flowing into the remaining monopolies to a socially unbearable extent. On the other hand, Russia cannot stabilize the ruble as long as in the exchange of goods and money the open flank with the other CIS states is not secured.

Volskiy is quite skeptical about the "\$24-billion relief program" offered by the seven leading western industrial nations (G-7), which may easily—like most of the foreign currency loans granted by the West to the former Soviet Union—seep away in the gutter "if one does not take care." Only if the internal prerequisites exist "can

the stabilization fund be very helpful for Russia." Western creditors "must take care that the money is properly used for the reorganization process, that is, that economically profitable projects are financed above all."

In retrospect, however, he has to draw the sad conclusion "that the major part of the billions of old Soviet debts recorded in Western ledgers were spent on food." But Russia is "such a rich country that it can not only pay interest and principal on these debts, as agreed with the G-7, but it can also economically justify the granting of considerable amounts of new Western loans." According to Volskiy, "Russia is at least paying interest on about 85 percent of the hard currency debt due in the West, without the other CIS states' delivering their foreign exchange profits to the Russian Federation as was contracted."

According to Volskiy, the holding organization, which is acting with a staff of 110 employees, 2,100 member companies, and 39 industrial associations under the new name of "International Congress for Industry and Entrepreneurs, not only has all other CIS states, Georgia, and the Baltic countries as members but six German enterprises, such as Mannesmann.

Volskiy Discusses 'Renewal' Bloc, Other Issues

MK2506194592 Moscow ROSSIYA in Russian No. 26, 24-30 Jun 92 (Signed to Press 23 Jun 92) p 3

[Interview with A.I. Volskiy by Liliya Lagutina under the "Autograph" rubric; date and place not given: "Arkadiy Volskiy: 'I Am a Pragmatist... And I Also Like Italy'—first four paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] "Some of the greatest figures in British political life ended their political career in a different party from that in which they began it. Consequently, we should not seek here the real reasons why he inspired such mistrust. His critics saw him not as a positive quantity that had to be used in an hour of danger but as an additional danger to beware." This is what Lloyd George said about Winston Churchill.

L. George's words are only partly applicable to Arkadiy Volskiy—people are wary of him too.

"The military-industrial complex is taking revenge, and Volskiy will soon be premier, for he has already introduced his own people into the government"—this sentence has already become a commonplace. While not taking any notice of such forecasts, which might never come true, I would take a closer look at the "Volskiy phenomenon." Although the word "phenomenon" is frequently used both with and without good reason, I will nonetheless venture to remark that it is appropriate here.

Of Gorbachev's entire entourage in Russia, only Volskiy has managed to become not only a really active political figure, whose "finest hour" could undoubtedly still be to come, but also a person capable of saying at some

moment: "Gentlemen, we have here a castling move—be thankful it is not checkmate..."

"My Zigzags"

[Lagutina] With how many general secretaries did you work, Arkadiy Ivanovich? We perhaps have to start with Khrushchev...

[Volskiy] You, like all journalists, like to exaggerate. I joined the CPSU Central Committee in 1969, after 14 years of hard work at the Likhachev Motor Vehicle Plant. It was there that I was confirmed as director of the Kama Truck Plant, but I worked in that capacity for just three days and was then ordered to take up the post of deputy head of the Central Committee Motor Vehicle Machine Building Sector.

[Lagutina] You speak as though you were planted there by force...

[Volskiy] Whether by force or not, that is quite another matter. Of course, you do not remember, but if you are a communist, it means you are obliged... This really was the case. In addition, the sectoral structures were not the propaganda department or the organizational department. We had work, as in the Council of Ministers, as in the ministries. It is a paradox, but the Central Committee had, for example, an organosiliceous compounds sector. Should the party have bothered with organic compounds?

[Lagutina] How did you answer this question to yourself at that time?

[Volskiy] Do not think I am being immodest, but way back then I was one of the first to call the CPSU a state party and to say that we were duplicating the activity of the Council of Ministers.

[Lagutina] But did not those seditious—for those times—statements hinder your successful career advancement?

[Volskiy] It would be interesting to know why I must justify myself, as it were, all the time.

[Lagutina] All right, Arkadiy Ivanovich, then I will ask you to look at your life through your own eyes.

[Volskiy] I was nine when the war began, but my entire childhood was canceled out by bombing raids and the children's home. My mother was in a partisan detachment, and my father at the front. Soon after the war I came to Moscow and graduated from the Steel and Alloys Institute. Then came the plant, the Central Committee, and Karabakh.

In all, there have been three zigzags in my life. The first was when I came to work at the Central Committee—which happened very unexpectedly for me. The second was when Andropov summoned me and suggested that I be his economics aide.

Well, today I could be rebuked for that stage of my life too. But I have never betrayed the people with whom I have worked. For Andropov was, nonetheless, the first of our leaders to say that we must investigate what kind of a country we live in.

The third zigzag was Karabakh. Permit me not to enlarge upon why that happened or on what happened there either. It is very painful. Although I must say that if even two or three of our suggestions had been adopted at that time, there would not have been such a large-scale tragedy.

I left Karabakh, leaving behind many friends there—among both Armenians and Azeris. Incidentally, I was elected a USSR people's deputy there, getting 97 percent of the votes. Throughout those years there was not one week when I did not have to resolve some Karabakh problems at the request of directors or the intelligentsia.

I returned to Moscow—no work. Mikhail Sergeyevich, whom many people still consider virtually my friend, all the time fed me some promises, without once materializing them. To be honest, I bore a strong grudge. I remember I telephoned the director of the Likhachev Motor Vehicle Plant and asked to join the plant. Then I calmed down, thought about it, and got down to new work—setting up this union.

[Lagutina] About Karabakh, nonetheless, Arkadiy Ivanovich... When you are ill with a high temperature, what pictures come before your eyes?

[Volskiy] ...The basement of a kindergarten. Children with dolls up to their knees in water. The building is burning, the city is burning, there is nobody about. Union Deputy General Prosecutor Nikolayev and I broke the window and took turns pulling the little children out. No, let's drop this subject.

[Lagutina] To judge from what you said, your departure into the union only happened thanks to a concurrence of circumstances, and not thanks to your gift of foresight or subtle guessing of the interplay of forces...

[Volskiy] This was in 1990. Believe me, very few people then were thinking of pulling out. No, if circumstances had not turned against me...

[Lagutina] Actually, in your favor...

[Volskiy] Yes... I would hardly have taken such a step. Then, take account of the fact that there is no country in the world that does not have such a union. In our country the All-Russian Union of Trade and Industry was formed in 1895 and was headed first by the owners of what is now the Likhachev Motor Vehicle Plant—the Ryabushinskiy brothers—and then, through an irony of fate, by my namesake, Adolf Adolfovich Volskiy.

[Lagutina] Arkadiy Ivanovich, probably you are frequently reminded that you were in Gorbachev's team. But do you consider yourself a Gorbachev man?

[Volskiy] This is a complex dilemma: Whether you are a Gorbachev man or not. Who is not a Gorbachev man? Maybe Boris Nikolayevich or Gavriil Popov? But I remember all their laudatory words about Gorbachev. Maybe Father Gleb Yakunin is not under any suspicion here, and yet it is hard to regard him as a Christian either.

My personal relations with Mikhail Sergeyevich were always ambiguous. I supported his policy of reforms, and I consider his services here to have been historic. But as for his eternal vacillation, indecisiveness... I felt these shortcomings particularly keenly at the time of our work in Karabakh. So, to speak plainly, I was never on Gorbachev's team. Incidentally, Mikhail Sergeyevich is inwardly a very reserved person, and I think that he simply does not have any friends.

At the same time I do not wish to judge him and throw stones at him. Among other things, because I have three main principles in my life: not to betray friends, not to take bribes, and I have something to lose—my decency. If I break just one of these principles, I will stop respecting myself.

[Lagutina] Tell me what, in your view, was Gorbachev's chief mistake.

[Volskiy] The ancient Romans used to say: "Bread and circuses," but not the other way round at all. But for him the "circuses" were the main thing. I take an ambivalent attitude to the political structure of China, but its economic policy undoubtedly merits the closest attention.

[Lagutina] With which of the former Politburo members were you friendly?

[Volskiy] I still have very good relations with Aleksandr Yakovlev. I respected V. Dolgikh.

[Lagutina] It is said that you knew A.N. Kosygin well.

[Volskiy] Kosygin always stood out from the general background because he at least understood what he was talking about. In my eyes that had great merit then.

[Lagutina] Are you sorry that the Union has disintegrated?

[Volskiy] Like the absolute majority of people. I am convinced that the Union could have been preserved, and the Belovezhskaya agreement is not to blame. Believe me, all the processes had gone too deep even then. Given the absence of friendship, the present Commonwealth is some kind of abracadabra. But none of the former republics will survive on its own.

About the Present Moment

[Lagutina] So what now, Arkadiy Ivanovich—total disintegration, the collapse of the center, self-assumed power in the provinces, and the president in the role of the queen of England?

[Volskiy] Such a thing could happen, but I do not want to believe this, for otherwise there is no point in all that I and my colleagues are doing.

[Lagutina] But what are you doing—serving the homeland?

[Volskiy] I would put it more prosaically: I cannot bear to see pensioners digging around in a garbage pit.

[Lagutina] Have you formed a shadow cabinet? You in the role of premier, Vladislavlev in the role of foreign minister...

[Volskiy] I have always proceeded from the premise that everyone must know his place. And like it. This is what I do. Nobody has suggested that I be premier.

It has come about that the government is everything to the people: Yeltsin, Khasbulatov, Rutskoy, Gaydar. The people do not care which of them has which policy. It is the government, period. And life is getting worse. There is constant squabbling within the leadership: They struggle for spheres of influence, scheme, and inform on each other. It is impossible to work. No, I will not be involved in that.

[Lagutina] I am not talking about your involvement! You are a quite experienced person. Konstantin Borovoy, for example, openly states that your structure is ready at any moment to become the nucleus of a coup...

[Volskiy] Yes, I have read these "revelations," and pardon me, but I cannot call them anything but "raving nonsense."

It is all a question of the situation that has objectively come about. How will you be able to disengage yourself from people working in state enterprises? Is there really no state ownership in developed capitalist countries? In Italy, for example—54 percent. In general, Italy is my ideal. There have been 27 different governments there in 30 years—shadow, nonshadow, any. The bulk of the population there does not even know who is prime minister today. This does not prevent anyone from living and working normally.

Can we really wash our hands of the fact that thousands of enterprises in our country produce defense output! Only someone with a sick imagination could privatize a plant for the production of atom bombs or the cosmodromes.

I regard it as inadmissible that directors of enterprises, people with colossal experience of life, must constantly justify themselves, as though they are on trial. Before whom are they seated? Before judges like Borovoy?

Just listen to the jargon of our new entrepreneurs: "I turned my money over twice and made a million..." Quite honestly, I do not understand what this means.

[Lagutina] Are you against enterprise?

[Volskiy] I am "for" it wholeheartedly. But this must be done in a civilized way, or at least we must strive for this. Incidentally, our union is the founder of a number of exchanges and banks...

[Lagutina] That is where the bulk of the CPSU's money is said to have ended up. My colleague P. Voshchanov wrote recently in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA that Volskiy knows more about the party's money than the late Kruchina himself...

[Volskiy] I was wondering when you would broach this subject. For a whole campaign has been mounted, and it is 100-percent fantasy. For example, some party secretary telephoned and offered 100 rubles. This did not happen! Incidentally, I never lie.

[Lagutina] Allow me not to believe you on this...

[Volskiy] I might stay silent or not say everything, but I have never uttered an overt lie.

[Lagutina] There are three new vice premiers in the government: Shumeyko, Khizha, and Chernomyrdin... Many people are convinced that they will sing with your voice.

[Volskiy] The way you put the question is very insulting and totally unfair both to the new vice premiers and to my relations with them. Yes, I have known them well for a long time, and I respect them very much. When they joined the government, we naturally supported these candidacies, bearing in mind that they would champion the interests of industrialists. That, in fact, is all.

[Lagutina] Recently you have been criticizing the government particularly strongly...

[Volskiy] But what can I say, if it has neither a political face nor a program, and the country is perishing in corruption which has assumed unprecedented proportions... I have just been talking with the German ambassador. The Germans reckon that our condition has been taken to absurd lengths. They ask: "Is this a truly Russian invention of yours—to do foolish things?"

[Lagutina] What is your attitude toward Yegor Gaydar?

[Volskiy] I consider him a quite intelligent person, and I respect him. But I cannot find a printable word to assess, for example, his recent statement on the payment of wages. People in the West cannot understand how it is there is no cash.

I remember that Silayev, when he proposed an increase in prices and wages, spoke about printing money. "How can that be?" people replied. "That is emission!" Now we have a disastrous situation, which could perfectly well have been avoided if preparations had been made just a little in advance.

[Lagutina] So why is there this absurd situation? Who is to blame?

[Volskiy] People. Everyone must fulfill his own duty in his own post. The finance minister must be a financier, and a banker must be a banker. But the Savings Bank has been made subordinate to the Supreme Soviet, while the factory of the Main Administration for Production of State Bank Notes, Coins, and Medals has been left at the government's command. Absurd.

[Lagutina] Against this background what is your view of the resignation of Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov?

[Volskiy] I condemn it. It is desertion. I have known Popov in three roles: as an economist, as a colleague in the Movement for Democratic Reforms, and as mayor of Moscow. I liked the first Popov far better.

[Lagutina] Which movement would you prefer now: Democratic Russia or Working Russia?

[Volskiy] The two movements have in common a process of destruction. Now they have also come up with negation of negation. I do not hide my views: This is why we have set up the new "Renewal" union. The parties of Travkin and Rutskoy propose acting as a bloc with us.

[Lagutina] In short, a powerful centrist grouping is now in evidence. Do you dream of political leadership?

[Volskiy] I am not a dreamer by nature. I am a pragmatist. For two years I opposed the creation of any party, for industrialists started speaking of this back in 1990. I only gave in when constituent congresses were held in the regions and the question arose of whose hands this would pass to. The "Renewal" union has five cochairmen, and I am not among them.

[Lagutina] You pull the strings...

[Volskiy] ...

[Lagutina] Tell me, Arkadiy Ivanovich, are you not afraid that the absurd will be brought to perfection, and all your policy of common sense will be reduced to naught?

[Volskiy] Yes, I am afraid. I oppose all referenda, except for a referendum on land. I oppose trials. This will be no good for the country; people are disappointed both with left-wingers and with right-wingers, and trials will only elicit a reaction. I would urge the president to declare an amnesty for everyone, for that would be a very sensible step.

[Lagutina] Speaking about trials, do you envision a possible trial of the CPSU? In what capacity were you invited to a session of the Constitutional Court?

[Volskiy] I was invited as a witness, but I never understood whether as a witness for the prosecution or the defense... No one could explain that to me. I did not go.

[Lagutina] In what would you like to believe?

[Volskiy] I would very much like to believe that the government will finally eliminate all its conflicts, realizing that otherwise there will be a tragedy. I remember some movie in which a herd of horses is rushing toward an abyss, but suddenly someone appears and leads the maddened herd to one side. I would see the role of the "Renewal" union precisely as one of leading away from disaster.

[Lagutina] You have drawn up a very serious economic program, an active role in whose preparation is played by Professor Yevgeniy Yasin. What is your attitude toward Grigoriy Yavlinskiy?

[Volskiy] I consider both Yasin and Yavlinskiy outstanding economists. In purely human terms I have a very good attitude toward Grigoriy Alekseyevich, and he keeps in touch with us.

[Lagutina] Does it not seem to you, Arkadiy Ivanovich, that, by orienting yourself only toward industrial enterprises, you are narrowing your social base, leaving to one side the scientific and technical intelligentsia, for example...

[Volskiy] Where did you get that from? The scientific and technical intelligentsia has always been in our field of vision, and Academicians Raushenbakh and Velikhov are members of our board.

[Lagutina] Do you not think that too much time has already been lost to be able to stop the wild herd?

[Volskiy] I hope not.

Communist Deputies Predict Coup in Jul, Aug
OW2506212792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1930 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Thursday [25 June] in Moscow the deputy faction "Communists of Russia" distributed a document entitled "A Possible Scenario for a State Coup in July-August This Year". It was developed by experts of the opposition parliamentary block "Russian Unity".

The authors of this document believe that the preparation for a coup will be begun when "the mass media remaining under control of the government initiates a full-scale campaign to provoke mass psychosis and to form an image of an enemy identical to a "red-brown monster". [quotation marks as received]

At its July meeting with the leaders of "G-7" in Munich (Germany) the Russian administration will receive "guarantees for non-involvement or well-disposed neutrality in case the internal political situations sharply change and measures to establish a dictatorship are being implemented,—the authors of the document write,—while groups of instigators are waging conflicts in the outskirts of Russia".

Then great clashes "with violence" are being organized in Moscow and other Russian Federation centers "granting Yeltsin a possibility to appeal to the people for extraordinary powers".

Making comments on this document, Deputy Gennadiy Sayenko drew journalists' attention to the possibility of realizing the above mentioned plan during the parliamentary holidays. Sayenko came to such a conclusion when he learned that the deputies are presenting information on places of their holidays.

Democrats Warn of 'Destabilization of Power'
PM2206151592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
22 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by Sergey Chugayev: "Representatives of Russian Parliament's Democratic Factions Call on Citizens To Unite and Bar the Way to Fascism"]

[Text] After Russia's parliament had failed to support the proposal to discuss events at Ostankino and the actions of groups like "Working Russia," representatives of the democratic factions in the Supreme Soviet held a news conference during which they gave their assessment of the political situation prevailing in the republic in connection with the activation of extremist forces.

Representatives of the "Radical Democrats," "Democratic Russia," "Nonparty Deputies," and "Coalition in Support of Reforms" factions, the association of republicans and social democrats, and the "Reform" group took part in the news conference. The journalists invited to the news conference felt some perplexity at the clear lateness of the action—assessing the "assault on Ostankino" almost one week on. However, the deputies explained the delay by saying that, first, they had been waiting for law enforcement agencies to react to events and, "second, had been hoping parliament would react. Neither reaction was forthcoming. Moreover, in recent days the situation has deteriorated sharply. Leaflets calling for the violent overthrow of the authorities are being circulated in Moscow. The statements of parliamentarians from the 'Russian Unity' bloc and the leaders of the Russian National Assembly chime in with them."

It is the support for extremists on the part of some members of parliament and the clear passivity of law enforcement agencies that are the main sources of the increase in extremism, the organizers of the news conference believe. According to Deputy V. Sheynis, the forces that have been attacking the government and the president lately constitute a minority. But they are encouraged by their impunity. The representatives of democratic factions in parliament also drew attention to the fact that the militia's actions are greatly hampered by the tactics adopted by "Working Russia" and the movement's allies. When they march on militia cordons they put women and veterans in the front ranks. "Baburin,

Pavlov, and Astafyev stand not in front of the pensioners, but in the middle. They look after themselves," Deputy G. Gorelov remarked on this score.

In the name of the democratic factions in parliament the organizers of the news conference read out a statement noting the sharp increase in opposition pressure on legitimate organs of power. And, the statement stresses, "instead of a realistic alternative program they offer us a set of demagogic slogans and accusations and use the activeness of a few provocateurs to simulate public support."

"We are in no way questioning the opposition's right to set out its views and wage the political struggle," the statement says, "but this struggle has begun to overstep the bounds of not only political propriety but also constitutional legality." In the opinion of the statement's authors, the political implications of all these actions are clear: "The destabilization of power in conditions of acute crisis threatens to produce a repetition of the national catastrophe of 1917. This time in a country bristling with nuclear warheads and nuclear power stations."

The statement's authors call on the president, the government, and organs of power, "acting strictly within the law, to stop the anticonstitutional actions" and urge the leaders of parliament to "stop jousting with the government and to dissociate themselves from the inflammatory statements being made inside parliament."

"We call on parties, public organizations, and all democratically oriented citizens to unite and bar the way to the forces of fascism and civil war," the statement says.

According to Deputy L. Ponomarev, the association of defenders of the White House has already stated its readiness to protect the Ostankino TV center. He also disclosed the start of preparations for holding a rally of democratic forces in Moscow 28 June, in which he says at least 100,000 people will participate.

Moreover, during the news conference it was announced that parliamentary hearings over the Ostankino events, to which the leaders of Russia's law enforcement agencies will be invited, will be held at the White House 22 June.

Zhirinovskiy Criticizes Leaders' 'Treachery'

PM2606101392 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 23 Jun 92 p 2

[Report by A. Arkhipov and V. Litov: "Instance Of National Terror"]

[Text] "The Moldovan-Romanian forces' bandit raid on Bendery is seen by the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] as an attack on Russia, as a declaration of war on all Russians"—these words are from a statement circulated at Vladimir Zhirinovskiy's news conference in Moscow yesterday. "The Russian leadership's inaction and the

deliberate refusal to protect the lives of Russian citizens in the Dniester Region is another case of treachery and national ignominy."

LDP Chairman V. Zhirinovskiy roundly condemned the bloody reprisal against the "Ostankino" television center pickets organized at the behest of Moscow City Hall. While criminals openly go on the rampage, he stressed, the authorities are using more and more militia and special-purpose detachment forces to suppress the political opposition, thus encouraging legal chaos. At the same time, tawdry propaganda spectacles are being organized to deceive people, such as the quest for "CPSU money" in Italy, although it would be far more appropriate to ask Gorbachev, who is in Moscow, about it.

At the news conference V. Zhirinovskiy introduced the members of the Russian national government—the shadow cabinet. It is not a coalition government, although it includes both LDP members and nonparty ministers.

It is interesting to note that Eduard Limonov, the well-known writer, is proposed as head of a "new organization to combat corruption and other serious crimes"—the "All-Russian Bureau of Investigation."

'Alliance' for 'Revival' Marks National Day

PM1706132792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 15 Jun 92 First Edition p 1

[Report by Pavel Anokhin: "Abandoning Illusions"]

[Text] The "Alliance for Russia's Revival" marked 12 June by laying flowers at the monument to the heroes of Plevn and wreaths at the Russian Government building on Staraya Ploshchad. The flowers are in memory of the victims of interethnic conflicts. The wreaths are in memory "of the deceased ideas of Russian democracy and Russian reforms."

"The government has turned the people's support against democracy, against reforms," Cadet Dmitriy Rogozin, member of the "Alliance for Russia's Revival" political council, said at a brief rally. "Instead of a Russian revival we have a revival of totalitarianism, a revival of nomenklatura structures. The struggle against communism has turned into a struggle against the state."

The speaker saw the founding assembly, the observance of the rule of law, and the creation of a strong state as the path to Russia's salvation. This idea was the leitmotiv of the rally, in which representatives of the social democrats, socialists, Democratic Party, Cadets, Russian Christian Democratic Movement, and people's deputies of various levels participated as private individuals. One of them, Moscow City Soviet people's deputy Andrey Savelyev, who is both a member of the Social Democratic Party of Russia and a member of the "Alliance for Russia's Revival" political council, said:

"Today we are abandoning our illusions. The president and his team, possessing a great deal of real power, are experimenting. In time they will say to the people: The experiment has failed."

Concerning Gavril Popov's resignation, the speaker said: "It is an attempt to cover up the tracks. What he should do first is account for his activities both to the Soviet and to the people who elected him mayor."

Depressed by what I heard, I decided to walk the streets of the capital and see how people were celebrating the homeland's independence. The weather was warm, but for some reason people were thin on the ground.

Movement Forms Lobby To Support Referendum

OW2506152692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1800 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Democratic Russia Movement's (DRM) branch in St. Petersburg has formed a lobby group in support of a national referendum on private ownership of the land and Russia's new constitution. The two questions to be put up for Yes or No answers run as follows: 1. Do you agree that the Constitution of the Russian Federation must enshrine the right to private ownership of the land, that is, the Russian citizen's unconditional right to own, use and dispose of the land? 2. Do you agree that the Russian Federation's new constitution must be adopted by a constituent assembly—the people's special legislative—to be elected not later than next March?

DRM officials in St. Petersburg say similar groups were also set up in Moscow, Irkutsk, Volgograd, Novosibirsk, Arkhangelsk and other Russian cities..

Economic Freedom Party Registers

LD2506210192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1816 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Vdovin]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—Registration documents were presented to the Economic Freedom Party (EFP) in the Russian Ministry of Justice today. The co-chairmen of the EFP are Konstantin Borovoy, director of the Russian Commodity and Raw Materials Exchange, and Svyatoslav Fedorov, general director of the Intersectoral Eye Microsurgery Research and Development Complex.

The main task of the new organisation is to provide "a complete set of civil rights, both political and economic ones," Borovoy told ITAR-TASS.

Republicans Score 'Reckless' Government Policy

PM2606092792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 26 Jun 92 First Edition p 2

[Report by Yelena Musatova: "Not Unconditional Support"]

[Text] "Reckless and unconsidered" was what the leaders of the Republican Party of Russia called A. Rutskoy's recent statement on the events in Ossetia and the Dniester region. At a news conference held yesterday at the premises of the Gorbachev Foundation the Russian Government was reproached for not having a considered policy in its mutual relations with the CIS countries. The Russian leaders' call to defend the Russians' rights cannot fail to find a response in people's hearts but in fact its result cannot be justified. Immediately after the statement which had been made the flames of national conflicts flared up even more strongly, and there is veritable warfare in Moldova and Georgia today. It is terrible even to think of how this fire could erupt on the territory of the former Union if politicians start to be guided by their emotions and not by the principles of international law.

In the opinion of V. Shostakovskiy, cochairman of the Republican Party of Russia, it is impossible fully to rule out national clashes. And today we have 180 potential seats of conflict. In resolving these conflicts we need a balanced policy and a sober and clear approach. Russia, as a federation itself, should set the former Union republics a worthy example, paying paramount attention to the defense of human rights.

The politicians who addressed the journalists paid great attention to the third congress of the Republican Party of Russia which is under preparation and will open 28 June in the Gorbachev Foundation building. At this congress the republicans will voice their attitude toward the economic reforms the government is implementing. Their preliminary assessment was given at the news conference. V. Shostakovskiy defined the criticism to which Ye. Gaydar's economic policy is being subjected as insufficiently constructive. He said that there has not been and is not an alternative to the course of the reforms which have been initiated. At the same time in pursuing this course it is essential to pay more attention to medium and small business, to encourage producers, and ease tax pressure.

The Republican Party of Russia is the only party which is fulfilling the agreement signed by the president and is not entering into opposition to him. This support will obviously be continued after the party congress, but it is not unconditional. "We are not one of Yeltsin's teams," the news conference stated.

Christian Democratic Movement Holds Assembly

LD2206184992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1230 GMT 20 Jun 92

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[Text] Moscow, 20 Jun—At its first assembly the Russian Christian Democratic Movement [RCDM] confirmed today that it is totally opposed to the government and in this respect it aspires to the role of a centrist force within the patriotic movement. At the present stage the RCDM considers the main task to be the "restoration and strengthening of Russia's statehood" and "enlightened patriotism".

The 208 delegates to the RCDM assembly who gathered today in the Russian Parliamentary Center building discussed the new rules and program for the movement and the party of the same name, and elected their leaders. The RCDM, which was formed two years ago and has about 15,000 members, has decided to amend its program directives in connection with the changed political situation. At the first stage it considered its main task to be the struggle against the communist regime "for the embodiment of Christian ideals in the life of society". Now that the "regime of state atheism" has been destroyed - to a large extent due to its own efforts, the RCDM thinks—a different task has been moved to the fore—the task of restoring the crumbling state.

Last year the RCDM left the Democratic Russia movement, and then went over to the camp of the political opponents of the president. In his speech the chairman of the political council of the RCDM Viktor Aksyuchits described the present course of the Russian leadership "national and state betrayal" and "a source of destabilization". The RCDM's greatest protests were aroused by the agreement to set up the CIS—an agreement which the party's leader characterized as "historically arbitrary".

The new program notes that ideally, the RCDM sees the Russian state as close to what Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn envisages it as: a single state of Slav republics and Kazakhstan, with relations with the other republics of the USSR based on the confederative idea. As for the question of the form of the state system, the RCDM feels that this should be decided by a specially convened land assembly [zemskiy sobor].

The RCDM confirmed that it will continue to work actively within the framework of the Russian national assembly [rossiyskoe narodnoye sobraniye] which it has set up jointly with the other moderate patriotic parties, and also in the parliamentary bloc Russian Unity, which has communists as well as patriots among its members. But the Christian Democrats constantly remark that they have nothing in common either with the leftwing radicals, or with the rightwing nationalistic forces in the opposition camp. The chairman of the Duma of the RCDM, Gleb Anishchenko, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent that the Christian Democrats are "very wary" of the Russian national assembly, being opposed both to its anti-semitic and to its pro-communist tendencies.

Supreme Soviet

Move Limits Army to 1 Percent of Population

OW2506193992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1929 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] After discussing a draft law on defense in its second reading Thursday [26 June] evening, the Russian parliament deputies adopted the thesis in respect to the number of the Russian armed forces in peacetime. At present it cannot be more than 1% of the republican population. It means that not more than 1.5 million people can serve in the Russian army while at present it amounts to 2.6 million troops.

The parliament declined an amendment made by a people's deputy, leader of the opposition faction "Fatherland", General Boris Tarasov, who insisted to exclude these restrictions from the draft law.

The parliamentarians did not manage to review all the amendments to the draft law on defense being discussed in its second reading before the end of the session. Its discussion is expected to continue on Friday.

Parliament Rejects Bankruptcy Law Again

LD2506195292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1531 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Galina Vinitskaya]

[Text] Moscow June 25 TASS—Four weeks after being first presented to the Russian Parliament, the law "on bankruptcy" was rejected on Thursday [25 June] by the parliament again. Although parliamentary speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov twice put the matter to vote, there have not been enough votes to adopt the draft law. The main argument against the draft law was that after it went into effect virtually all enterprises in the Russian Federation would go bankrupt.

Bill Postponed 'Indefinitely'

OW2506175392 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1710 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian parliament has turned down the government's bill on the insolvency (bankruptcy) of enterprises. The opponents of the bill warned that its adoption today would be tantamount to declaring virtually all Russian enterprises bankrupt and insisted on prior rehabilitation of government-run industrial enterprises. Others suggested that before the bill could be passed, all enterprises should settle their delayed payments.

The speaker of the Russian parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov who chaired the session, put the question of passing the bill after the first reading to the vote twice. The second time he declared a roll-call. During the second voting in the House of Nationalities the bill was three votes short of the required majority, while in the House of the Republic 56 percent of the law-makers voted for the bill.

The discussion and adoption of the law on bankruptcies has been put off indefinitely.

Khizha Briefs on Enterprise Debt Freeze

OW2506160292 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1455 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Vice-Premier of the Russian Government Georgiy Khizha told parliament on Thursday [25 June] that Boris Yeltsin's decree on freezing the debts of industrial enterprises will be approved soon. He also said that the enterprises' mutual debts must be frozen beginning July 1.

Khizha expressed the opinion that the system of the parliament's and government's measures in the area of monetary circulation, credit emission and elimination of mutual debts is insufficient to curb inflation. He believes therefore that without cardinal changes in the financial and crediting system the situation will not improve.

Khizha said that part of the mutual debts will be turned into bills which can be sold or exchanged during the year. Upon expiration of this term, the bills will be converted into the shares of debtor-enterprises.

The government has received a loan of about 200 billion roubles from the Central Bank to balance the payments, said Khizha. The size of the loan is smaller than the sum actually needed. It will therefore be used exclusively to "replenish the assets of trade, to make a food reserve for the winter and to buy agricultural produce. [no closing quotation marks as received]

Capital Replenishment Eyed

LD2506221292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1020 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow, 25 Jun—The problem of mutual non-payments of enterprises is one of the most acute problems in the present economic situation of Russia. A month ago a joint decision was adopted by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Government of Russia aimed at settling this problem. Vice Premier Georgiy Khizha delivered a report on the progress in implementing this decision at the Russian parliament today. He reported that the Central Bank granted the government credit to normalize payments. However, its

amount is less than real needs. According to Georgiy Khizha, it will be directed only at "replenishing working capital to purchase harvests and to prepare reserves for the winter and in trade."

He said that in the next few days the government will adopt a decision on freezing the list of loss-making enterprises as of 1 July. The section of the list corresponding to mutual debts of enterprises will be transformed into "circulating debt obligations" which will be passed between enterprises throughout the year.

In the course of discussion deputies raised the issue related to a general all-Russian system for offsetting debts of enterprises more than once. In this connection Georgiy Khizha reported that the Central Bank analyzed this version thoroughly and deemed it inexpedient as it will not remove the causes of the problem. He also stressed that credit has been received to clear the government's debt to the Defense Ministry and other organizations financed from the budget.

At the proposal of Ruslan Khasbulatov it was decided to postpone the discussion of this issue until 26 June, when the government's budgetary message for 1992 will be discussed with Yegor Gaidar's participation.

Session Briefed on Enterprise Accounts, Credit

LD2506221592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 0800 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Polikarpova video report; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The Russian Supreme Soviet session has two weeks left to the end of its work. There are many issues still to resolve. It is essential, in the deputies' opinion, to hear a report on the activity of the Committee for Economic Reforms, to introduce amendments and addenda to the law on victims of repression, specifically to Article 15 relating to compensation and benefits, and to have examined the issue of the activities of the interparliamentary group.

At this morning's meeting the deputies were briefed on the implementation of the decision of the Presidium and government on urgent measures to improve enterprise accounts. It was reported that the government has taken out credit with the state bank and has already received credit for the improvement of payments to the national economy. The Ministry of Finance has also taken out credit to cover its debts to budget organizations. [video shows meeting in progress]

Proposals on Dneister, Ossetia Turned Down

OW2406120392 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1129 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Wednesday [24 June], the Russian Parliament's Council of the Republic will listen to a report of the Commission for Deputies' Ethics. Deputy Yuriy Yeltsov said this decision was taken in response to the conduct of Sergey Baburin and Vladimir Isakov who are fanning fascist-communist hysteria in parliament and in Moscow squares.

Addressing the Council of the Republic in the morning Baburin proposed that the question of recognizing the Dniester Republic and on the unification of North and South Ossetia be included in the agenda. According to IF [INTERFAX] sources, Baburin's first proposal was turned down during voting. The second one was not even put to vote by the Council of the Republic's Speaker Nikolay Ryabov.

Neither did the MPs [members of parliament] back the initiative of Vladimir mission for investigating the events Isakov to set up a com near the Ostankino TV center on June 22 and to discuss this problem at a joint session of the parliament's two chambers.

Commission Reviews Yeltsin Budget Message

PM2506140792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 24 Jun 92 First Edition p 1

[Report by parliamentary correspondent Aleksandr Linkov under the "Budget" rubric: "Wait and Perhaps We'll Come to the Surface"]

[Text] The Russian Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Republic Commission for the Budget, Plans, Taxes, and Prices has held parliamentary hearings on the president's budget message for 1992. It was defended by First Deputy Finance Minister A. Vavilov. Let us say right away that he did not have an easy time on the rostrum. Deputies often drove the deputy minister into a corner with their specific questions, and his answers clearly did not satisfy them.

A critical, objective analysis of the budget message was made in a supplementary report delivered by V. Sokolov, chairman of the budget subcommission. He noted that the government honestly admitted its inability to put theory into practice. Let us cite this conclusion from the message: "...Given the actual structure of the Russian economy and the acuteness of the social problems, it is impossible in practice in 1992 to apply the classic form of monetarist regulation of the market economy to stabilize the situation."

Sokolov observed that the government notes the deterioration of the state of affairs in the economy, but it offers virtually no specific measures, expressing only general desiderata. It is acting according to the principle of let's wait and perhaps we'll come to the surface. Analysis of the March version of the message and what is now being considered has shown that the government, while seeking to reduce the budget deficit, is attempting to do this at the expense of public education, culture, and

health care. It is impossible to talk of any development of private farming on the basis of the resources being allocated to those ends.

Sokolov noted very accurately one particular feature: Theoretically competent young professionals have been assembled in the government, but they have no idea at all about routine organizational work and are unable to ensure that adopted decisions are carried out. And we should not now waste time on political wrangling and sorting out who's against whom, but should roll up our sleeves and get down to work. There is still time to rectify things.

It is intended to submit the 1992 budget message for its first reading at the plenary session of the Supreme Soviet on 26 June.

Hearings Debate Threat From 'Extremist Forces'

PM2606103392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 26 Jun 92 First Edition p 2

[Report by V. Serebryannikov and V. Bokhovkin, experts and consultants to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet chairman: "Not Gambling on Force"]

[Text] Parliamentary hearings were held 23 June on the question of "the threat to the constitutional system in the country in connection with the activation of extremist forces."

During the discussion, which basically came down to an assessment of events around the Ostankino television center, two trends clearly emerged.

The first was the position of the hearings' organizers—representatives of the factions of Democratic Russia and the radical democrats.

They advocate tough strong-arm suppression of the opposition, guided by expediency and necessity and not so much by the law.

These deputies see the strengthening of the authorities in their ability to suppress, ban, dispel, generate fear, and so forth.

In analyzing events they go no further than superficial phenomena, and do not set themselves the aim of looking into the true objective reasons for the mass protest. They disregard the fact that tens of thousands of people have been taking part in demonstrations, pickets, and meetings in Moscow in recent days in connection with the catastrophic deterioration in their material position, their uncertainty for the future, and their sense of complete defenselessness.

Failure to understand the thrust, causes, and sources of events leads to the erroneous selection of means of defusing social tension. Instead of priority for political, economic, propaganda, and other nonforcible measures,

emphasis is placed on crude force. This of itself could give rise to an escalation of violence and the emergence of clashes.

In the actions of the supporters of this position one can trace a desire to justify the need to move to a tough, authoritarian regime operating by neo-Stalinist methods.

That is ultimately to the advantage of the two conflicting sides for the escalation of social tension and the undermining of the as yet unstrengthened foundations of democratic power.

In our view the second approach, demonstrated by Moscow's prosecutor and the workers of the security services of the capital and the Russian Federation is more productive.

They suggested separating the examination of the political aspect of events from the attendant criminal manifestations. Political actions which do not go beyond the framework of the Constitution and the law should be approached in a political manner, with no attempt to gamble on force to resolve the conflict between them and the authorities. Here all violations of the law by specific people and organizations should be recorded, documented, handed over to the prosecutor's office, and investigated, after which criminal charges should be brought against the culprits.

Violation of the law cannot be allowed either by the participants in political actions of protest against the state leadership or by the authorities themselves. Unfortunately, the authorities in a number of cases are setting an example in violating laws. This gives rise to an eruption of mass lawlessness.

The use of force against the civilian population, against the political opposition is intolerable. Political conflicts between the authorities and citizens should be resolved by political means. The slightest violation of the law, an inclination toward the strong-arm suppression of the political process, could lead to the point where no one feels safe even under the protection of the best law.

The lack of legislative acts precisely regulating the rights of the use radio and television by various sociopolitical movements and parties creates preconditions for the artificial fueling of political passions around this issue.

The strength of the authorities lies not in the ability to ban and suppress but in the ability to generate trust in themselves and the people's support, in their moral authority. At the same time the laws should clearly determine when and in what circumstances the authorities can resort to tough measures to maintain public order.

The legislative and executive authorities also need to take resolute steps to prevent the creation of illegal military and paramilitary formations. The bitter experience of the former USSR and a number of CIS countries attests that connivance in this matter inevitably leads to the elimination of the personal responsibility of citizens

and society, to the emergence of implacable confrontation and mass bloodshed, to the death of completely innocent people.

Regional Affairs

North Ossetia Lifts Gas Blockade of Georgia

LD2506222392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1900 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Report by correspondent Aleksandr Aleshkin]

[Text] The North Ossetian Supreme Soviet took only half an hour to consider an appeal from the parliament of the Republic of Armenia at its session. Thirty-four days ago, on 21 May, the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet adopted economic sanctions against Georgia after the shooting of refugees from South Ossetia by Georgian fighters near the village of Kekhvi. The gas pipeline was shut down. However, the action struck hard at the economy of Armenia, which obtains gas via Georgia.

The session was addressed by Vilen Cheticha, deputy prime minister of the Republic of Armenia, who read out the parliament's appeal to the Supreme Soviet of North Ossetia. It contained a request to lift the gas blockade owing to the extremely serious situation that had taken shape in the national economy owing to the shutting down of the gas pipeline. Deputies who spoke emphasized that the Ossetian and Armenian peoples were linked by millennia of friendship. Neither people are responsible for the tragic impasse in which they found themselves. The problems that they are now trying to resolve were passed down to them by the totalitarian regime. Guided by the principles of humanism, the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet decided unanimously to unblock the gas pipeline. The blockade of the Georgian military road remains.

N. Ossetia Legislature Views Dagomys Accord

LD2506210592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
2018 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Vladikavkaz June 25 TASS—An agreement signed in Dagomys, a Black Sea resort, by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, President of the Georgian State Council Eduard Shevardnadze and representatives of North Ossetia and South Ossetia is an important step to cease fire in South Ossetia. This was stressed at a session of the North Ossetian parliament here on Thursday [25 June]. It was noted that all armed units of the opposing sides should now be withdrawn from Tskhinvali. Neutral corridors should be formed so that joint armed forces of Russia, Georgia, North Ossetia and South Ossetia be sent to Tskhinvali.

An address of the Armenian parliament to the North Ossetian parliament about the resumption of gas supply

to the Transcaucasia, specifically to Armenia, was discussed by the session. As is known, Mozdok-Vladikavkaz-Yerevan trunk pipeline has been blocked. The North Ossetian parliament adopted a decree to resume the supply of gas to Transcaucasia.

According to reports of the South Ossetian parliament and the North Ossetian Ministry of Security, the past day was relatively calm in the Tskhinvali district. However, an exchange of fire from automatic weapons took place on Thursday morning. One person was killed, nine others were wounded.

Moscow City Votes No Confidence in Mayor

OW2506194492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1929 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Moscow City Council Thursday [25 June] passed a vote of no-confidence in the Mayor of the capital Yuriy Luzhkov and decided to set December 5, 1992 as the date to elect a new leader of the Moscow administration.

The press center of the Moscow Council said in a secret vote the deputies decided to appeal to the General Prosecutor of Russia Valentin Stepankov with a petition to bring charges in light of violations in the Moscow administration.

Criminal Proceedings Sought

LD2506200792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1805 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Belskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 25 Jun—A session of the Moscow soviet has expressed a lack of confidence in "Yuriy Luzhkov, deputy head of the Moscow city administration." The city's deputies also intend petitioning Russian Federation Procurator General Valentin Stepankov to institute criminal proceedings regarding cases of unlawful actions by the Moscow administration.

The city representative authority accuses the administration of "numerous breaches of the Russian Constitution and its laws and decisions of the Moscow Soviet, "actions aimed at the actual hindrance of the lawful activity of the body of Moscow state authority." The decision of the Moscow soviet session is the result of more than a year of rivalry between the Moscow executive and legislative authorities for the right to govern the city.

Referring to the impossibility of governing Moscow without additional powers, Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov recently resigned. Yuriy Luzhkov assumed his functions. Today's decision of the session says that the Moscow soviet reserves the right during its study of the city budget to also study the question of halting finances for the "unauthorized" Moscow executive authority.

Moscow Soviet Replaces Internal Affairs Leader

LD2506162492 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 1100 GMT 25 Jun 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The DR-press agency reports that a session of the Moscow City Soviet has adopted a decision on the incompetence of the leadership of the Main Directorate of Internal Affairs of Moscow and on urgent measures to restore law and order in the capital. Arkadiy Murashev has been relieved of his post by this decision. His functions are being transferred to Major General Vyacheslav Komissarov.

Session Discusses Dniester Region, Ossetia

LD2606052392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] A session of the Moscow City Soviet has discussed the situation in the Dniester region and South Ossetia. It appealed to the Supreme Soviet and the Russian Government to take measures to protect peaceful residents and the families of the Russian Army servicemen.

The Moscow administration has been instructed to get ready to receive refugees from the Dniester region and South Ossetia. The Moscow City Soviet session also adopted a decision to set up a special commission composed of deputies, heads of the city's law enforcement bodies, and the public to study the events which took place outside the Ostankino Television center on the night of 21-22 June.

Urges Recognition of Dniester

LD2506161292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1525 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow June 25 ITAR-TASS—A session of the Moscow City Council today adopted a resolution on the recent developments in the Dniester region and South Ossetia. The council condemned armed actions instigated by Moldovan and Georgian authorities and demanded an immediate end to armed intervention.

The Moscow City Council appealed to the Parliament and the Government of Russia to consider extending diplomatic recognition to the Dniester Moldovan Republic. For the purpose of establishing close political, economic and cultural ties between Moscow and the Dniester region, it was decided to initiate talks at the level of the council leaders, and allocate premises in Moscow for the embassy of the Dniester Republic. The Moscow City Council also decided to provide all vitally important conditions for strengthening economic and cultural links and information activity on the territory of the Russian Federation.

Moscow Prosecutor Views Ostankino Aftermath

PM2506151392 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
25 Jun 92 p 1

[Interview with Moscow City Prosecutor G. Ponomarev by Yuriy Makhlin and Valentina Nikiforova, carried as part of feature entitled "What Happened at Ostankino?"; place and date of interview not given: "At First Hand. Moscow Prosecutor's Office"]

[Text] There are no bodies, Moscow City Prosecutor G. Ponomarev replied, quickly understanding the question about the 22 June events at Ostankino.

[Ponomarev] People in the city are dying all the time, and the time and place of their deaths could coincide with the events at the television center. But there were no fatalities resulting from the militia's actions. There are no bodies.

[PRAVDA] But there are casualties. We saw two in hospital beds at the Sklifosovskiy Institute.

[Ponomarev] Yes, I read that in PRAVDA. That item is grounds for an investigation. Should grounds be revealed, we will start criminal proceedings. Incidentally, we are analyzing all press items about the Ostankino event. On the basis of the items and other data we are checking the legality of the militia's actions in forcing the picketers back.

[PRAVDA] But haven't criminal proceedings already been started? Against whom?

[Ponomarev] Back on 15 June proceedings were started on two cases of resisting militia staffers, and on 19 June proceedings were started for stirring up ethnic discord—banners, slogans, leaflets...On 22 June criminal proceedings were started for urging the violent overthrow of authority. The proceedings have not been started against named individuals.

[PRAVDA] There was a report on the radio that criminal proceedings had been brought against the picketers.

[Ponomarev] I do not know what kind of material the person who made such a hasty statement was going on.

[PRAVDA] How do you react to items talking about people having died at Ostankino?

[Ponomarev] I would advise journalists to check and recheck rumors, reports, and statements. [Ponomarev ends]

This is what the editorial office intends to do. We ask everyone who has reliable information and documents to approach the PRAVDA editorial office.

Democratic Russia Hits Militia 'Passivity'

MK2006102592 Moscow KURANTY in Russian
19 Jun 92 p 2

["P.Z." report: "Authorities Lack Power"]

[Text] The Coordinating Council of the Moscow City organization of the "Democratic Russia" movement has addressed a statement to Mayor Yu. Luzhkov, GUV D [Internal Affairs City Administration] Chief A. Murashev, and Moscow Prosecutor G. Ponomarev. It emphasizes that procommunist and chauvinist forces of an overtly extremist tendency have taken provocative advantage of permission granted by the Moscow government to picket the Ostankino television center.

The passivity of the law-enforcement organs is amazing, the statement reads. Violations of the elementary norms of public order are not only not being suppressed but to all intents and purposes are being encouraged by the inactivity of the organs of power.

If the authorities do not instill order very soon and ensure the normal working of the "Ostankino" State Television and Radio Company, the Moscow organization of the "Democratic Russia" movement is ready to place the television center's employees under its protection.

CPSU Organization Restored in Moscow Region

OW2106182992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1640 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to the press-center of the All-Union Communist Committee, a restoration conference of the CPSU of the Moscow region was held in Moscow on Saturday [20 June] which was attended by 62 delegates. It was decided to restore an integrated communist organization in Moscow and Moscow region.

Having decided that the old-time Moscow and regional communist party committees were inactive, the conference decided to strip them of powers and elected a new Moscow CPSU committee. The former party leaders were accused of "inactivity and failure to take appropriate measures to have party structures restored" in the capital.

30 delegates were elected for the 29th CPSU congress to be held in Moscow on July 4-5.

Muscovites See Economy as 'Grave, but Bearable'

PM2506135192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by Nuzgar Betaneli, director of the Institute of the Sociology of Parliamentarianism: "Half of Muscovites Assess Economic Situation as Grave, but Bearable"]

[Text] The independent Institute of the Sociology of Parliamentarism has held its routine weekly poll of 1,000 Muscovites commissioned by the ITA program ITOGI. Here is what comparative analysis has shown.

Who is the mayor of Moscow today? The "trick" question caught many voters unawares. Only 71 percent knew that this post is now held by Yu.M. Luzhkov, 3 percent thought it was still G.Kh. Popov, and 26 percent admitted honestly that they "did not know." But that is not a bad level of information if you consider that, for instance, 55 percent of Muscovites did not know the name of Russian Foreign Minister A. Kozyrev.

Today, a year after G. Popov's election as mayor, 38 percent of those polled considered that choice to have been wrong, 29 percent adhered to the opposite view, and 33 percent found it hard to say. The new Moscow mayor's rating is also rather low: Of those polled, 26 percent did not agree that Yu. Luzhkov should have become mayor of the capital, while 26 percent agreed that he should, and for 21 percent "it makes no difference who is mayor," while 27 percent found it hard to give an opinion.

The situation that has taken shape around real power in Moscow is becoming increasingly intolerable and explosive. In the opinion of 62 percent of those polled either there is no boss in Moscow at all or it is the mafia that rules. In the opinion of the majority (62 percent), bribery in Moscow has increased over the past year. Only 8 percent of those polled believed that it has remained at the same level; 3 percent believed it has "decreased," while 27 percent found it hard to say.

The position of many social groups remains very grave. In the past week or two the sociopsychological situation in society has remained stable and has even improved slightly in some respects. But behind the external facade of public adaptation lies the drama of many people who seem to risk being crushed to death by the new rise in inflation, prices, and unemployment. Thus, as before, 70 percent of Muscovites were dissatisfied with life; this figure is 72-75 percent among pensioners and workers. Over the past seven days the number of those who cannot endure the liberalization of prices has declined from 41 to 36 percent. A further 48 percent considered the situation to be "grave, but bearable," while in the opinion of 9 percent, everything "is not as terrible as it seems" or it "suits them."

A comparative analysis of the structure of those who are prospering in the "era of liberalization" did not reveal anything unexpected. The largest number of "satisfied" people is among businessmen (32 percent) and workers in organs of state power and management (23 percent). Nor will anyone be surprised that the number of those who cannot cope with the increase in prices is largest among pensioners (54 percent), the unemployed handicapped (70 percent), the unemployed (48 percent), and workers (39 percent). This situation is keenly raising the

question of the rights of the majority and the minority and of social justice, and is putting forward the problem of morality in politics.

Picketing of the "Ostankino" television center lasted all last week. Many Russian politicians and parties disagree in their assessment of this event. But on whose side are public sympathies? The poll showed that 9 percent of Muscovites sympathized with the pickets, 42 percent sympathized with the television center, 22 percent did not sympathize with anyone, and 27 percent found it hard to state their attitude. It is possible to have different attitudes toward this situation, but one cannot fail to note its social roots: Those who sympathize with the pickets are mainly people dissatisfied with life (77 percent), those who cannot cope with the liberalization of prices (46 percent), and those who do not believe in the success of B.N. Yeltsin's economic policy—73 percent.

Last week the majority of people (69 percent) were very interested in the progress of the talks between President B. Yeltsin and President G. Bush, but in the opinion of one Muscovite in three, current relations between Russia and the United States are developing toward U.S. interests to a greater degree. For individual social groups, disagreement with the foreign policy concept of collaboration between Russia and the United States is even higher. Nonetheless, B.N. Yeltsin's visit to the United States has raised the rating of his economic policy slightly: The number of those who do not believe in its success has declined from 56 percent on 11 June to 48 percent on 18 June. The largest number of skeptics is still among workers (54 percent), the intelligentsia in the social and humanitarian field (53 percent), and young people under the age of 29 (57 percent).

Businessmen Attend Forum in St. Petersburg

LD2506211292 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1919 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Nikolay Krupennik]

[Text] St. Petersburg June 25 TASS—The second international forum of Russian and German entrepreneurs opened here today. An economic dialogue between representatives of well-known firms, small and medium-sized businesses and banking is being conducted under the programme for cooperation between the Russian Government and the government of Baden-Wurtemberg, one of industrially most developed lands of Germany.

The first international forum, involving 130 entrepreneurs from German firms and their counterparts from Russia was held in the city on the Neva two years ago.

This time a programme has been worked out with due regard for the changed political realities and the economic situation in Europe. Entrepreneurs are expected to discuss prospects for economic reforms in Russia, projects for cooperation in twelve leading branches of industry, marketing, and banking.

The guests will tour St. Petersburg-based businesses involving German partners and will study possibilities for the establishment of new production plants.

Cossacks Plan To Create Republic in Checheniya

LD2506220192 Moscow *POSTFACTUM* in English
1726 GMT 25 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Grozny—The third congress of the Russian population of Checheniya will be held in Grozny in mid-August. The autonomous Cossack republic is expected to be proclaimed there.

Gennadiy Tokarev, secretary of the department of the Terek Cossacks which is the organizer of the congress, told PF [POSTFACTUM] on June 25 that the forum would be attended by 400 delegates, elected at the first congress on December 1991. The Cossacks plan to discuss problems of the political, economic and cultural life of the Russian population of Checheniya. It is supposed that the delegates would demand the organizing of the supreme body of power in Checheniya in the form of the Soviet of the Republic and the Soviet of Nationalities, working on a parity basis. In the sphere of economy Cossacks demand the carrying out of privatization strictly on a voluntary basis, through the issuing of shares. They believe it is necessary to refrain from the accelerated privatization of land, especially in the areas traditionally inhabited by Cossacks. Delegates to the congress will support the development of consumer cooperatives, social protection for the unemployed and pensioners, the timely payment of wages and the massive allotment of land for individuals orchards and vegetable gardens. According to the draft programme of the congress, its participants will object to the artificial obstacles on the way of economic relations with Russia, will favour a free movement of capital, goods and people across Chechen borders and will express concern over possible consequences of the introduction of Chechen own currency.

In the cultural sphere Cossacks support the development of Russian schools, the creation of Russian lycees and gymnasiums and the construction of orthodox churches.

Weapons Left in Grozny After Troop Withdrawal

LD2506134292 Moscow *POSTFACTUM* in English
0933 GMT 25 Jun 92

[From the "Military News" section]

[Text] Grozny—Military sources say that after the withdrawal of the district training center of the Transcaucasus Military District from Grozny, 42 tanks, 38 armored infantry vehicles, 14 armored personnel carriers, 14 combat reconnaissance patrol cars remained in Checheniya.

On top of that, the army units had to leave behind 31,378 [word indistinct], 12,813 pistols, 460 rifles, 1,011 machine guns, 1,021 grenade-throwers. A lot of ammunition remained too.

The military report that weaponry was left because, under the pressure of the Chechen authorities, the army units were leaving Grozny on the double and they had no opportunity to collect everything.

Explosive Materiel Found in Taganrog Scrap Metal

PM2406104792 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast: Video report by M. Abrosimov]

[Text] [Abrosimov] You will agree, it is a pleasure to hear about concrete business contacts between former republics of the former Union. Thus, the Taganrog Metallurgical Plant has concluded a direct contract with the Armenian State Trust for the Procurement and Processing of Secondary Ferrous Metal for the delivery of 40,000 tonnes of metal scrap. Unfortunately, political realities have imposed their own correctives.

What is there to be found in metal scrap arriving from a country where combat operations are under way? Your eyes are not deceiving you. [video shows metal scrap] Explosives experts and sappers have discovered a large number of shells, rockets, mines, and other munitions containing explosives in the four freight cars that have arrived from Armenia—a veritable arms dump on wheels.

[Unidentified man] This is a highly flammable explosive device. A small knock is sufficient for the powder to ignite and produce a massive explosion.

[Abrosimov] According to the accompanying document, this is scrap metal that has been certified "non-explosive."

This freight has spawned a multitude of problems. Who is to pay for the sappers' services—the plant or the supplier? After all, we now have a market. The Taganrog plant is expecting to receive the next consignment of scrap metal to arrive in compacted packs. How are these to be inspected?

The legal liability of the people who have dispatched this scrap metal is currently being studied by Armenian law enforcement agency staff. They have started investigations at the request of their former colleagues at the Russian Ministry of Security's Rostov Administration.

Ussuriysk Repair Plant Converts Armored Train

OW1906055392 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 0600 GMT 17 Jun 92

[A. Malygin video report; from the "Dalniy Vostok" program]

[Text] For many years we sang the song: "We are a nervous people, but our armored train is standing on a reserved siding." And so, this famous composition became the swan song for the glorified and legendary weapon. The train from the Far East Military District, which has just arrived here at the Ussuriysk Tank Repair Plant, gave its last whistle and stopped not on a reserve, but a dismantling, siding. [video shows an armored train being shunted onto a siding]

The armored train, composed of one large mainline and five smaller diesel locomotives, a huge headquarters car, and 10 armored platforms for artillery installations, will be taken into the mechanical workshops soon and that will be its certain end. However, let us hear what Colonel Anatoliy Narushevich, the chief of the plant, has to say on the topic. [video cuts to show Malygin interviewing Narushevich]

[Begin recording] [Malygin] Anatoliy Danilovich, is this the first armored train to arrive here?

[Narushevich] To date, yes, it is the first one.

[Malygin] And what is its fate?

[Narushevich] Its fate is that we hope to use it for the national economy, firstly. To use up everything possible for the national economy, of course. First, these platform cars are all metal, well made, and today there are comrades, or rather enterprises which need such platforms for transporting special cargoes.

[Malygin] All that is left is to repair them slightly...

[Narushevich interrupting] No, no, they are quite new, why do they need repair! They just have to be converted to the necessary configuration for MPS [Ministry of Railways] operations, and that is it. In addition, there are diesel locomotives which also will be used in the national economy by small enterprises.

[Malygin] You mean those that we have seen here?

[Narushevich] Yes, yes, there are comrades who want to acquire them. That is what I am saying, we have to utilize this fully for the national economy. To tell you honestly, the era of the armored train is past, it has lived its life and now will serve the national economy. [end recording]

Among the machinery plants of the Far East Military District the Ussuriysk Tank Repair Plant was the first to begin conversion. In the past three years it has converted more than a hundred retired tanks into agricultural machines. It has also produced tens of millions of rubles worth of various consumer goods. This armored train will be far from the last thing to be converted.

Fear Over Dangerous Biysk Industries Reported

OW2506021892 Moscow Central Television
First Program and Orbita Networks
in Russian 1845 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Video report by S. Kuzmin; from the "Utro" program]

[Text] In the middle 1950s, giant military industrial complexes were established in Biysk. No one thought about the correctness of their location. No one considered the prevailing winds nor the proximity of housing. The city grew and soon residential blocks surrounded the railroad branch line, along which explosives, chemical products, and rocket fuel are transported almost daily.

Remember the catastrophe in Orlovsk, or the explosion at the Biysk oleum [sulphuric acid] plant a year and a half ago that took several lives?

[Begin recording] [Kuzmin] What is being transported along this road?

[Unidentified woman] They transport sulphuric acid, ammonia, and coal along this road. As far as explosives are concerned, I think what is being manufactured here at the chemical combine....

[Kuzmin, interrupting] Do you know what is being manufactured there?

[Woman] Yes, of course.

[Kuzmin] The whole city must know. It is not a secret.

[Woman] Of course, of course. Do you know we have bottlenecks at the nearby rail crossing, and there are collisions in which parts of the train crash into one another?

[Kuzmin] I do not think there will be much left here if....

[Woman, interrupting] Definitely!

[Kuzmin] Are you not frightened to live here?

[Woman] Very much. There are mostly pensioners living around here, and somehow that is a bad habit. Or maybe we are already used to it.

[V. Nesterov, Ministry of Security officer] As a matter of fact, the Biysk City Department has been concerned with this problem from the beginning. This problem became acute in 1990. We regularly pass information on these problems around the departments, namely the head of the Biysk City Administration and the Altay Kray Administration of the Ministry of Security. In practice, each year we send two or three analytical reports around the departments so that our information could assist the authorities to come to some decision on it.

[Kuzmin] That is, [words indistinct] absolutely (?refuses) to adopt these decisions despite the fact the situation is known by both the president and the government.

[Nesterov] Yes, this situation is known to the Russian Government. Russian Vice President Rutskoy visited here just two months ago and we put this problem to him; unfortunately, the problem remains tense and things are moving very slowly. [end recording]

The conclusion is clear—a by-pass road is needed. Incidentally, it does exist, but requires complete reconstruction.

Bryansk Media Agree To Give Protesters Airtime

LD2206090892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1000 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] A meeting has been held in Bryansk between the management of the oblast's state television and radio company and activists of communist-oriented parties, who have organized a protest outside the television center building. It has been agreed to provide the opposition with 45 minutes of airtime to set out their views before the end of June. They have also not ruled out holding a roundtable with the participation of representatives of communist and democratic parties.

Agreement Denied

LD2206091392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1200 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Here is some information just in from Bryansk. Vladimir Novikov, chief editor of the Bryansk television information service, has denied the information carried this morning on the Ostankino TV and Radio company's "Utro" program. Talking to our correspondent on the telephone, he stated that the management of the Bryansk TV and radio company has not agreed to the requests of representatives of pro-communist organizations who are demanded live airtime.

As we have heard, the protesters picketed the Bryansk TV and radio center in support of their like-minded Moscow colleagues. Vladimir Novikov also pointed out that the possibility of holding a roundtable discussion between representatives of parties and movements of different orientations in the nearest future will be examined.

Karelia Decree To Solve Cash Shortage Problem

LD2506122192 Helsinki Suomen Yleisradio Network
in Finnish 1000 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Due to the emergency which has arisen in Karelia because of a cash shortage, a decree has been issued ordering all enterprises, organizations, and institutions to hand over all their cash funds to a bank. Committees will be set up in all towns and districts to monitor the execution of the decree. Experts believe that most enterprises will seek to retain their cash funds despite the proposed big fines.

Tatarstan To Withdraw From Ruble Zone

LD2606052992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 1700 GMT 24 Jun 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Tatarstan is preparing to leave the ruble zone. DR-press reports that the sphere of ruble circulation is to gradually be reduced there from 1 July.

Nonpayment Causes Kuzbass Coal Production Drop

PM2506123592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 1100 GMT 23 Jun 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast: Video report by I. Chirkov, V. Voronov]

[Text] [Announcer] Following several months of stable work, the rate at which coal is being dispatched from the Kuzbass has dropped. In June alone, consumers failed to receive around 1 million tonnes of fuel.

[Chirkov] It was a concerned telegram to the Kemerovo Railroad from the miners that brought us to the Chernigovskiy open-cut mine. The miners were asking railroad workers to reduce their freight car quota in June by 1,920 cars. What is the reason for this cutback? The telegram explains it. It all has to do with customers' insolvency. It is for this very reason that the mine's coal face is out of operation for the second month running. Meanwhile, huge reserves of coal have built up in the storage areas—almost 300,000 tonnes.

You can understand the miners—for over six months all of them have been owners of the biggest joint stock company in the Kuzbass—Chernigovets. The miners are working enthusiastically and efficiently. Naturally, they want to make a profit in order to be able to replace equipment; obtain spare parts, fuel and lubricants, and electric power; and last, to receive the money they have earned on time. But the mine's cash box is empty even though the coal has been dispatched to the consumers exactly on schedule. Monetary circulation has broken down. Today, even clearing transactions has come to a standstill. The shareholders have been placed in a desperate position. After all, no one is going to throw a life belt to a non-state enterprise. Already, the heavy Byelaz trucks have come to a standstill until further notice because of a shortage of tires, and the supply of diesel fuel has fallen to a critical level—there is no money with which to buy it. All this has happened despite the fact that coal has actually been extracted.

Reciprocal nonpayment is causing the ruin of the coal sector. According to Russian Coal Corporation forecasts, fuel extraction in the Kuzbass will fall by 10 million tonnes this year, which will naturally have repercussions on metals and power industry workers and machine-builders.

Rumyantsev Studies Bashkortostan Constitution

PM2206102192 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jun 92 p 2

[Report by G. Agisheva: "Bashkortostan Is With Us!"]

[Text] Concerned at the danger of the outbreak of a war of constitutions in the Russian Federation, O. Rumyantsev, chairman of the Russian Federation Constitutional Commission, has arrived in Ufa. He has familiarized himself with the draft constitution of Bashkortostan adopted here on the eve of the session of the republic's Supreme Soviet.

This document, which contains a clause on the right of free withdrawal from Russia for the Republic of Bashkortostan and which in fact ignores the Russian Federation Constitutional court and in general proceeds from the premise of the primacy of the longed-for bilateral treaty between the Republic of Bashkortostan and the Russian Federation. It was with relief, however, that Rumyantsev said that it is fully compatible with the Russian Constitution.

Maritime Kray To Boost Business With PRC

OW2306071892 Vladivostok Radio Vladivostok
Network in Russian 0220 GMT 23 Jun 92

[From the "Lunch Hour Break" program]

[Text] Vladimir Kuznetsov, head of the kray administration, is in China. He undertook this short visit to Harbin to sum up the results of cooperation with Heilongjiang Province and to sign a cooperation agreement for 1993. Until now there has been no agreement, despite active contacts with this province. At present the Maritime Kray's direct trade contacts are valued at 265 [figure as heard] convertible rubles per annum, which is 67 percent of all the kray's direct foreign contacts. That is why Vladimir Kuznetsov will travel to Beijing from Harbin to meet with representatives of government circles to define ties with other provinces such as Jilin and Liaoning, proposing, in particular, a review of border crossings and transport cooperation.

Saratov Says 'No' to German Autonomous Region

PM2606113592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 23 Jun 92 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report from the "News" column roundup: "'Yes' to Germans, 'No' to Autonomy"]

[Text] A session of [Saratov Oblast's] Engelsskiy Rayon Soviet of People's Deputies has said "no" to autonomy on the Volga. Referring to the political instability and bloody interethnic conflicts which are shaking CIS territory today, and also basing themselves on the results of the referendum held recently in the rayon, the deputies in effect went against the decree of the Russian Federation president "On Urgent Measures to Rehabilitate Russian Germans," not consenting to the creation of any

national formations on the territory of the rayon in question. This also applies to the already projected German rayon on the basis of sovkhos "23."

At the same time the session instructed the administration "to create conditions to resettle citizens of German and other nationalities on the territory of the rayon, without encroaching upon the interests of the indigenous population."

Dagestan Political Scene Viewed

PM2606091392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 23 Jun 92 First Edition p 2

[Report by Mikhail Dadashev: "On the Southernmost Border"]

[Text] Makhachkala—Avars have held a congress in the multinational city of Khasavyurt in which representatives of almost all the people's movements, fronts, and parties of Dagestan took part. It loudly proclaimed that Dagestan is a unified family of fraternal peoples for whom it is essential to move away from confrontation toward mutual understanding. This idea was the central theme of the speeches by Imam Shamil Hajji Makhachev, chairman of the Islam People's Front; Salav Aliyev, chairman of the "Tenglik" Kumyk people's movement; and representatives of the Lezgin, Dargin, Lak, Chechen, and other people's movements.

The polyglot people's assembly adopted a decision to boycott the referendum scheduled for 28 June, since presidential rule is unacceptable for Dagestan, and private ownership of land must not be allowed.

The results of a poll carried out by the Russian Federation State Committee for Statistics Dagestan Administration Public Opinion Research Service proved to be still more eloquent. To the question: "Do you consider introduction of the post of a president of the Republic of Dagestan elected by universal suffrage to be necessary?" 70 percent of respondents replied negatively, while 59 percent said "no" to the question "Do you consider the introduction of private ownership of land to be necessary?"

The recent statement by the state news agency CHECHENPRESS claiming that "over a long period of time a policy has been conducted of blatantly violating the rights and freedoms of Chechens living in Dagestan" and that "with the aim of shutting off the peoples of Dagestan and putting pressure on the Chechen Republic, with the full connivance of the authorities, large military forces have been brought into Dagestan, a sizable part of which are concentrated near Checheniya's borders and areas where Chechen-Akkins live" caused bewilderment, at the very least, in Dagestan. The statement goes on to say that "these preparations" are nothing less than a wide-scale provocation "whose aim is to cause conflict between the peoples of Dagestan, to embroil the

Chechen Republic in these conflicts, and not to allow the liberation of the people of Dagestan from their colonial chains."

In view of the fact that the government of the Chechen Republic has not distanced itself from this statement, the Republic of Dagestan has issued a statement in its turn on behalf of the government. This says, *inter alia*, that the Chechenpress statement could be viewed as interference in the internal affairs of sovereign Dagestan and aimed at destabilizing the situation in the republic; that Chechens enjoy all the same rights as any other Dagestan people, being proportionally represented not only in the local organs of power, but also in the highest echelons of power; and radio programs are broadcast and a newspaper is published in the Chechen language every day.

On the subject of the military forces allegedly amassing near the Checheniya borders, the statement notes that this is "blatant disinformation and a barefaced lie."

The statement clearly expresses the idea that the Dagestan peoples will allow no one to interfere in their internal affairs, and that this "unfriendly act" toward them could deal a serious blow to the traditional friendship of the fraternal peoples of the two neighboring republics.

In Magaramkent many thousands of Lezgins from Dagestan and Azerbaijan have taken part in a rally. It is thought here that the cause was President Boris Yeltsin's statement of Russia's intention to reinforce its southern borders, especially with Azerbaijan.

In their speeches the participants in the rally stated that this intention of the Russian authorities will lead to the further disruption of economic, political, and cultural ties between the Lezgins of Dagestan and Azerbaijan, whose rapprochement and unification they had been seeking for many years.

The four-hour rally resulted in a resolution calling on Lezgins to unite irrespective of their traditions.

Many here believe that the conflict in this region could be a new Karabakh.

28 Jun Referendum in Dagestan Previewed

924C1758A Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 18 Jun 92 p 3

[Article by Mikhail Karpov: "Referendum on the President and the Land: Its Results Are Possibly Predetermined and Might Merely Exacerbate the Situation in the Republic"]

[Text] The referendum scheduled for 28 June in Dagestan is, as its organizers intend, to resolve two most serious problems which have confronted the republic. The first concerns the weakness of the present executive authority, for the strengthening of which it is proposed introducing the office of president. The second is private ownership of the land.

The principal sponsors of the referendum are, by all accounts, the current power structures of Dagestan. And it will, by all accounts, take place. Although practically all social and political and national movements and organizations of Dagestan without exception are opposed to it. These include "Democratic Dagestan," which has resolved to boycott the referendum and simultaneously to monitor the polling stations to exclude attempts to falsify the results of the ballot. But, as the results of a poll conducted by the service for study of public opinion attached to the Dagestan Office of the State Committee of the Russian Federation for Statistics show, only 26 percent of those polled have resolved not to take part in the referendum, whereas 60 percent declared that they would go to the polls.

One of the fiercest supporters of the introduction of a presidency is Magomed Ali Magomedov, chairman of the republic Supreme Soviet, who has three times attempted to have parliament carry a decision on the introduction of this office. But he has not managed to persuade the deputies. It is entirely possible that the reason for this position of the chairman of the Supreme Soviet is occasioned by the fact that, in the event of a negative result, he could extend the power of parliament, whose activity is evoking considerable discontent in the republic. Given a different outcome, on the other hand, he could "push through" the version of Yeltsin, who switched to the presidency from the office of chairman of the Supreme Soviet. According to the poll data, incidentally, Magomedov would be one of four candidates for this office, named by a minority of those polled, it is true. The majority either named no one or spoke in support of leaders of a district scale. The names of Mirzabekov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, Aliyev, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, and Abdulatipov, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, were heard together with that of the chairman of the Supreme Soviet. The latter considers the organization of a referendum "an attempt to confuse people." He substantiates such a position as follows: "Few people have any idea of the contours of presidential rule. The republic parliament has itself yet to make up its mind on this question and wants the people to do this, knowing the position the people will adopt...I would define the present referendum as the latest move in the political games...." At the same time Ramazan Abdulatipov declared: "I am not one of those avid for power, but if Dagestan needs me, I am prepared even to take the position of senior lecturer at the Dagestan Pedagogical Institute, let alone the presidential chair." This chair will not, most likely, go to anyone since, according to the poll data, 70 percent will oppose the introduction of a presidency, 19 percent will vote in favor.

There is no such predetermination on the question of the introduction of private ownership of the land, although here also up to 59 percent intend voting against, while 30 percent have decided to vote for private ownership. It is

feared in Dagestan even now that a referendum could considerably exacerbate the already serious contradictions in the republic.

Lezgins Protest Border With Azerbaijan

*LD2206164592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0818 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gadzhi Shamov]

[Text] Makhachkala, 22 Jun—The situation in the south of Dagestan is uneasy these days. Rallies of thousands of people are being held virtually all the time by residents of the districts which border on Azerbaijan.

The statement made by Russian President Boris Yeltsin on the intention to establish the state borders of the Russian Federation has led to these disturbances. Speakers at the meetings protest against this thinking that what the Russian leadership intends to do will limit ties between relatives, as well as economic and other links between the Lezgins. This will finally split people which live both in Dagestan and Azerbaijan (Over 300,000 Lezgins live at present in Azerbaijan. The total length of the land border between Russia and Azerbaijan amounts to to 367 kilometers 200 meters).

Demands were also voiced at the meetings to resolve the issue of a national-state structure of the Lezgin people—Lezgistan, to stop the call up of the national minorities of the Dagestan language group of Azerbaijan into the national army of this republic to participate in the military actions in Nagorno-Karabakh. An appeal to the

presidents of Russia and Azerbaijan, to writers, journalists, scientists, and people's deputies protests against the possible establishment of the border along the Samur River.

Tuva Citizens Rally To Support Independence

*OW2306165192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1441 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] About 700 Tuva people (Cheesha) convened in their capital Kyzyl to support the proposal by the Popular Front "Free Tuva" of holding a referendum on the republic's independence and secession from Russia.

According to an INTERFAX correspondent the delegates practically ignored the address by the Supreme Soviet's speaker Vicheldey Kadyr-Oola who advised to refrain from a referendum.

The question for the ballot will be worded later by representatives of all the republic's commons.

Tuva is a republic in Siberia's south-east with a population of about 300,000. It was included in the Russian Federation in 1944 and in 1961 obtained the status of an autonomy. Over 70% of the population are Tuva nationality. The land is rich in discovered and already worked deposits of gold, coal, iron ore, non-ferrous metals. There's some non-ferrous metallurgy, timber industry, light and food industries.

Since 1990 Russian-speaking people began leaving the place in greater numbers than usual. Observers expect the process to gain in force with the coming referendum on independence and a law on language likely to be passed by the nearest Supreme Soviet session.

International Affairs

Troop Units on Alert Along Moldovan Border

LD2506213692 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service
in English 2100 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] As reported by the press department of the frontier troops of Ukraine today, all units and subunits of the frontier guards of Ukraine on the border with Moldova are on the alert in connection with the aggravation of the situation in the Dniester region. The leadership of the (?state) command of the frontier of Ukraine is undertaking measures for increasing forces and [word indistinct] at the danger spot with the aim of guaranteeing the defense and [words indistinct] of Ukrainian borders.

Further on Kravchuk Comments on Dagomys Talks

LD2406175292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1416 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Report from Kiev by correspondent Vladimir Sokolov for the "Mayak Panorama" program]

[Text] The results of the Dagomys summit, in which everyone is so interested, are finally becoming known. Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk dedicated today's news conference for Ukrainian and foreign correspondents to these results. He read in full an agreement signed in Dagomys on the further development and improvement of interstate relations between Ukraine and Russia. He said that in Dagomys they managed to resolve all the issues on the agenda, including previously tackled issues which have taken months and led to false interpretations and inventions. He emphasized that this was facilitated by an especially friendly atmosphere at the meeting.

[Begin Kravchuk recording] For the first time in many meetings there was a friendly atmosphere; moreover, this was not just between Presidents Yeltsin and Kravchuk. There has never been confrontation in the relationship between myself and Boris Nikolayevich. We adhered to a fundamental stand defending our interests. I defended the Ukrainian people and Boris Nikolayevich defended the Russian people, but the general atmosphere and the participation of delegations including ministers, the military, consultants, and experts was that of a friendly meeting. [end recording]

Leonid Kravchuk especially emphasized the fact that the problem of the Black Sea Fleet is finally resolved.

[Begin Kravchuk recording] At last we decided the Black Sea Fleet issue in a new way. It was proposed by the Russian and Ukrainian defense ministers to finally divide the fleet and to create, on the basis of the Black Sea Fleet, a Russian fleet and a Ukrainian fleet. This removes this problem from the agenda. [end recording]

Leonid Kravchuk noted an agreement on joint responsibility for the processes which are taking shape in Russia

and Ukraine as being quite important. Certain forces there are in deliberate and coordinated opposition to the construction of their statehood and should be given a concerted rebuff. Replying to a question about the influence of this meeting's results upon other CIS countries, the president explained that general CIS issues were not discussed. Naturally, concerted actions taken by Russia and Ukraine facilitate more fruitful cooperation among these countries, although they are not decisive in every respect. He added that these issues will be tackled at the Moscow meeting of heads of states planned for 6 July.

He was also asked about the guarantees for all the conditions of the agreement signed in Dagomys should certain differences arise again. Leonid Kravchuk answered that he put this question directly to Yeltsin at their one-on-one meeting. It was decided that both of them would supervise the implementation of the agreements reached. Given any complications or differences, they will meet at once in order to find mutually acceptable decisions.

Ivan Plyushch, chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, briefly informed people's deputies about the results of the Dagomys meeting in which he participated at the beginning of today's session. He noted that both sides arrived at the conclusion that a new stage in the development of interstate relations between them is needed. Their relations are being readjusted under the influence of realities which have taken shape in production, social, cultural, spiritual, and other spheres. This requires a broader expansion of points of the previous treaty between Ukraine and Russia concluded in 1990.

Both Russia and Ukraine confirmed their firm intention to build these relations on the basis of equal rights, good neighborliness, partnership, and mutual benefit. It was decided to set up joint commissions dealing with preparing a new treaty of this sort between the two states.

Ivan Plyushch added that there was evidence at the meeting that there is no reason why relations between our states should worsen should Ukraine introduce its own currency. The work on a mechanism of mutual payments under conditions of the new currency has already started.

It is understandable that the first reaction to all these reports on the results of the Dagomys meeting is very positive everywhere, because it is apparent that all apprehensions regarding the furthering of confrontation between Ukraine and Russia were definitely rejected. The development of cooperation between them, which is gaining strength, was stressed.

Kravchuk Opposes Actions Against Journalists

PM2506153792 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 25 Jun 92 p 1

[Colonel A. Polyakov report: "L. Kravchuk: I Consider Ukrainian Defense Ministry's Actions Against KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Undemocratic"]

[Text] Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk has not met with journalists for several months. Evidently he too has been dispirited by the daily intensifying tension in relations between the fraternal peoples of Russia and Ukraine. That is why at a news conference Wednesday [24 June] he talked with particular satisfaction about the fact that the meeting in Dagomys had taken place in a friendly atmosphere. Russia and Ukraine, Kravchuk said, must unite their efforts in politics and economics in order to achieve positive results and frustrate the forces which would like to replace authority both in Russia and Ukraine by unconstitutional means. Kravchuk considers the Dagomys meeting a turning point for the better in relations between the republics.

Answering a KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent's question about how he, as commander in chief of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, reacts to the Ukrainian Armed Forces Main Staff directive of 15 June 1992 on putting a virtual block on work by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA journalists in Ukraine, President Kravchuk said:

"These decisions are illegal and undemocratic. This is the first time I have heard of such actions by the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, but I do know that there are people who would like to solve certain questions by force instead of operating through talks according to international practice. Conditions must be created to enable journalists to carry out their duties..."

All right, as they say, a positive statement has been made about KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondents' work in Ukraine. We hope that it will also be followed by practical steps which will help to strengthen friendship and mutual understanding between the two republics' armies.

Attempts To Smuggle Raw Materials Thwarted

LD2206223392 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service
in English 2100 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Ukraine's security service in Volyn region prevented the smuggling of strategic raw materials from Ukraine—over 22 tonnes of titan, copper and aluminum [as heard]. The illegal operation was a scheme by the Ukrainian-Polish joint venture Narichka.

National Affairs

Crimean Independence Referendum Postponed

LD2506201792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] According to a report by the NEGA News Agency, a meeting of the Central Electoral Commission for the all-Crimean referendum on the independence of the Crimean Republic took place in Simferopol on 25 June. The commission approved the organizational plan and decided to apply for the date of the referendum to be postponed until a later date, but not later than 6 September. Originally the referendum on the independence

of the Crimea was planned for 2 August. It was recommended that the media provide opportunities for campaigning in the papers and in broadcasting both for supporters and opponents of independence.

Parties, Movements, Deputies Issue Statement

AU2606062292 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian
19 Jun 92 p 3

[Statement signed by representatives of various political parties, movements, and groups of deputies from the Ukrainian and Crimean Supreme Councils; place and date not given]

[Text] We, the representatives of various political parties, movements, and groups of deputies of Ukraine's Supreme Council and of the Supreme Council of the Crimean Republic, alarmed by the political situation that has taken shape in the region and that is fraught with a possibility of interethnic conflicts and destabilization of the situation, express our support for the statement issued by Ukraine's Supreme Council Presidium and by the Crimean Supreme Council Presidium on the results of the consultative meeting in Yalta on 1 June 1992 and realize the high responsibility for our people's peace and well-being. In view of this, we are creating an interparliamentary association "For Civic Peace and Interethnic Accord."

Our goal is to maintain the integrity of Ukraine, while giving the Crimea the most extensive powers in the economic and sociocultural spheres.

We support the appeal issued by 18 chairmen of executive committees on 16 May 1992 on the unconditional fulfillment of Ukraine's legislation and of those Crimean laws that do not contradict Ukraine's Constitution or laws.

We are in favor of strengthening friendly ties between independent states—Ukraine, Russia, Byelarus, Kazakhstan, and other republics of the former USSR.

We are ready to defend the constructive position aimed at maintaining peace, accord, and universal well-being and invite all those who cherish these concepts to cooperate with us.

[Signed] V. Kolisnychenko, people's deputy of the Crimean Republic, representing the Supreme Council of the Crimean Republic's "For Civic Peace and Interethnic Accord" faction;

V. Kravets, people's deputy of the Crimean Republic, representing the Crimean Supreme Council faction "Democratic Crimea";

People's deputies of the Crimea:

S. Kunytsyn,
A. Matiyko,
V. Reva,
A. Havrylov,

N. Spys,
H. Demydov,
P. Kolisnychenko,
V. Sevastyanov.

V. Filenko, Ukraine's people's deputy, representing Ukraine's Supreme Council "New Ukraine" faction;

I. Drach, Ukraine's people's deputy, representing the Rukh [Ukraine's People's Movement for Perestroika] faction;

O. Moroz, Ukraine's people's deputy, representing the Socialist Party faction;

L. Yakovyshyn, Ukraine's people's deputy, representing Ukraine's Supreme Council "Land and Freedom" ["Zemlya i Volya"] faction;

A. Chepurnyy and V. Sukhyy, Ukraine's people's deputies, representing the faction of agrarian deputies;

V. Yevtukhov, Ukraine's people's deputy, representing the faction of industrialist deputies;

O. Yemets, Ukraine's people's deputy, representing "The Democratic Revival of Ukraine" faction;

D. Pavlychko, Ukraine's people's deputy, representing the Democratic faction;

M. Horyn, Ukraine's people's deputy, representing the Ukrainian Republican Party faction.

Law on Ethnic Minorities Adopted by Parliament

LD2506202592 Moscow Russian Television
Network in Russian 1900 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Announcer-read report by Svetlana Sorokina from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Kharkov-Novosti agency reports that the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet has adopted a law on ethnic minorities in Ukraine. According to the law, citizens of the republic will be free to choose their nationality.

Government Sets Up Currency, Credit Council

LD2406161292 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service
in English 2100 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Upon the decision of the Government of Ukraine, a Currency and Credit Council has been set up under the Cabinet of Ministers which will administer foreign credit and the state currency fund. The council will consider draft currency plans, the issue of foreign and domestic currency debt, and will study the priority trends for using foreign credits and other issues. The new body is headed by Ukraine's Vice-Premier Oleg Slepichev.

The required amount of Ukrainian national currency has already been printed but the date of putting it into circulation still remains a commercial secret. This has been stated at the international meeting of politicians in

Switzerland by the Minister of Privatization and Demopolization of Ukraine, Roman Shpek. Legal, economic and financial basis is still to be created for the normal functioning of the new national currency, called hryvnya.

Government Drops Salary, Benefits in Rubles

LD2506224692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1200 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Payment in rubles of 30 percent of salaries, pensions, grants and compensation to the population has now been rescinded in Ukraine, Kharkov Novosti reports. All payments at the disposal of the government are being made only in coupons. Ruble circulation is confined to the black market where its exchange rate has substantially increased during the past week to 50 kopecks per coupon. The restriction of ruble circulation in the Ukraine is, it is said, connected with preparations for the introduction of the Ukrainian national currency, the hryvnya.

Payment Cards To Be Introduced Over Five Years

PM2306101992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 0500 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Video report by V. Pidchenko and A. Dovgal, from Kharkov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Ukraine is preparing to introduce "electronic money." Here is a reportage from Kharkov.

[Pidchenko over video of "Khartron" production facilities] The "Khartron" association, a major scientific-and-production center of the former USSR Glavkosmos [Main Administration for the Development and Use of Space Technology for the National Economy and Scientific Research], has been charged with developing an electronic payment system for the country.

Incidentally, they have been addressing this problem for a number of years here. Samples of electronic money already exist. This is what they look like. [video shows a number of plastic cards] A system for automated payment by card has also been developed and is being successfully tested, albeit only at filling stations, for the time being.

[Pidchenko turning to "Khartron" official] Tell me, is it really worth reinventing the bicycle? After all, electronic money has been in use in the West for a long time.

[Academician Ya.Ye. Ayzenberg, general director of "Khartron" science-and-production association] You are right, for a very long time, 40 years in fact. Here is a Western card. Since it was conceived 40 years ago, it contains very little information. Therefore anyone in the West needs a large number of these cards. One for the telephone, one for use at filling stations, another for use in stores.

And here is our card, an electronic card. There is one like this in the West too. It alone replaces all the 20 or so magnetic cards, and in addition to this it can carry a lot of other information—a person's identification code, for example, his medical details, it can serve as an admission card, in short, it can do almost anything you like. Incidentally, it will do away with thefts of money. It will be impossible to steal money. It is useless to steal this card. To use it you have to know an electronic code which only the card owner knows.

The entire Ukrainian program is conceived over five years. However, we will begin to introduce electronic payments in individual sectors as from next year. [video shows "Khartron" production facilities, various plastic cards and equipment, a filling station card machine, interview]

Program for Border-Crossing Network Ordered

AU2506135692 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian
24 Jun 92 p 3

["Ukrainian Presidential Order on the State Program for Developing Ukraine's Network of Border-Crossing Stations and the Corresponding Services Infrastructure"; issued in Kiev on 22 June]

[Text] To create the necessary conditions for international communication across Ukraine's state border:

1. The Cabinet of Ministers must develop, within three months, and adopt the State Program for Developing Ukraine's Network of Border-Crossing Stations and the Corresponding Services Infrastructure.

To prepare the necessary documents for the Draft State Program, to organize, by 1 August 1992, with the participation of interested central organs of state executive power, inspection of Ukraine's border-crossing stations with a view to establishing railroad, automobile, sea, river, aerial, and other types of communication.

2. Ukraine's presidential representatives in oblasts and in Kiev and Sevastopol must ensure necessary conditions for conducting inspection of Ukraine's border-crossing stations and submit, in time, corresponding materials to Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers.

[Signed] L. Kravchuk, president of Ukraine

Kiev, 22 June 1992

Byelarus

Diplomatic Relations Established With Russia

LD2506225492 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 1700 GMT 25 Jun 92

[A. Zhuk video report; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The participants in the Minsk meeting arrived in the capital of the Republic of Byelarus today. In the evening a protocol was signed on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Russian Federation and Byelarus.

Yegor Gaydar, acting head of the government of the Russian Federation, and Vyacheslav Kebich, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Byelarus, signed the document.

[Begin recording] [Kebich] You know, I am always being asked and was asked again today: How do you view the prospects for the CIS conference? Every time, at every meeting, I am always asked whether the CIS will continue to exist. It will indeed continue to exist; if not in this form, then in some other form.

As far as our relations with Russia are concerned, this is the first document we have signed. A whole package of documents will be signed in Moscow on 7 July—that is the suggested date. This package will consist of 12 documents on our legal relations as two sovereign states.

[Gaydar] I am in full agreement with what Vyacheslav Frantsevich has said. I do not think that today will be seen as a turning point in our relations. I think that it will be seen as just another natural step in their development. We do not have any—nor do I see any—serious political or economic problems which would require any radical changes in our policies. Let us work together.

[Kebich] The biggest secret is what we talked about in the car. I once again raised the question of oil—not the price of oil, but increasing the amount of oil. Yegor Timurovich said in reply: We will certainly reach some accommodation with Byelarus. [end recording]

Russia To Return Byelarusian Inmates Home

PM2406141192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
20 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Mikhail Shimanskiy report: "Nobody Needs Foreign Prisoners"]

[Text] Minsk—Russia will in the near future deport 5,000 prisoners serving time logging in Siberia but sentenced in Byelarus.

This announcement was made at a session of one of the republic's Supreme Soviet parliamentary commissions. It alarmed both deputies and staffers of law enforcement agencies. You can see the effect that the return of such a

large number of convicts to the republic will have. Moreover, there is nowhere to keep the prisoners—all the colonies are overcrowded. It looks as if the number of convicts is not going to fall as the crime rate in Byelarus—a quiet and peaceful state—has assumed frightening proportions.

It is possible that, in reply to such a measure, Byelarus will also send prisoners which are "not its own" back to other republics.

Shushkevich Comments Cited on Poland Visit

LD2506165192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0625 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valentin Volkov]

[Text] Warsaw, June 25 TASS—Poland is prepared to assist Byelarus's development efforts as it is interested to have a worthy neighbour, said Byelarusian Parliament Speaker Stanislav Shushkevich. He addressed a press conference devoted to the results of his official visit to Poland here on Wednesday [24 June].

"The all-important thing now is to find a way out of the situation and restore the broken economic links so that our movement to a market economy be consistent and purposeful," Shushkevich said.

Regarding the future of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Shushkevich noted it is of overriding importance now not to lose what has already been achieved and preserve the economic links that formed in the structures of the former Soviet Union. "We should aspire for effective integration on the basis of the Helsinki Accords and the Charter of Paris. Byelarus could take on itself the function of forging ties between former structures of the USSR and the Commonwealth and Poland and Western Europe," Shushkevich added.

During his visit to Poland, Shushkevich hoisted the republic's flag over the building of the Republic of Byelarus's embassy in Poland, Byelarus's first foreign mission.

INTERFAX Continues Shushkevich Interview

OW2506122792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
0853 GMT 25 Jun 92

[From the 24 June "Presidential Bulletin" No. 101 "prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin" and "edited by Boris Grishchenko;" transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] PB ["Presidential Bulletin"] continues the publication of an exclusive interview with Byelarusian leader Stanislav Shushkevich (the beginning is in PB's edition of June 23).

Speaking about the origin of trouble spots in what used to be the Soviet Union, Shushkevich blamed them on the absence of long-term agreements between the former

Soviet republics which leads to the Russian army's involvement in areas where Russian lives are at stake, including the Baltic states, Dniester and Georgia. His argument is that Russian interests cannot be defended without the participation by the democratically-elected governments of those states pointing to the need for resolving all issues through negotiation. Shushkevich said that Byelarus was the guarantor [as received] the rights of Russians and other ethnic groups residing on its territory and there was no need therefore for any outside interference to do so. He called for bilateral agreements to be signed to resolve the issue of minority rights on the basis of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Helsinki agreement, the Paris Charter and other international covenants. Byelarus is now preparing a range of agreements with other CIS members, including a military agreement with Russia. The Byelarusian leader said there was an urgent need for the elimination of the legal void forming after the break up of the Soviet Union and pointed by way of example to the military treaty mentioned above. He said it was still unclear how the strategic weapons would be withdrawn from Byelarus and what was to happen to the troops which service them. Asked if the Byelarusian government had ever felt the urge to throw weight behind any one side in CIS regional conflicts, Shushkevich ruled out the possibility under any circumstances saying it would run against his country's constitution. However, he said Byelarus was ready to help as much as it could in resolving the conflicts politically. Shushkevich believes that the former Soviet republics must feel responsibility for whatever happens after the break up of the Soviet Union. However, he said Byelarus would deal only with the constitutional authorities of other states, but would have no formal contacts with unconstitutional entities such as the self-styled Dniester Republic. Byelarus has formally recognized and established diplomatic relations with Moldova, he said, and it must therefore respect the Moldovan government.

Asked if he thought Georgia's ruling state council was legitimate proceeding from his premise, Shushkevich said no because it was unelected. In his view, other CIS countries feel the same about Georgia whose democratically-elected government was overthrown by force.

Investment Agreement Signed With U.S.

LD2406194192 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1957 GMT 24 Jun 92

[By BELTA correspondent Tatiana Khriapina for TASS]

[Text] Minsk, June 24 TASS—Byelarus and the United States have signed an agreement on investments. The agreement was signed on behalf of their governments by Fred Zeder of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation [OPIC] and Vladimir Radkevich of the Byelarusian state committee for foreign economic relations.

"We can expect an upsurge of American business activity in Byelarus following the signing of this major bilateral agreement," U.S. Charge d'Affaires David Swarts told BELTA.

He said OPIC had earlier signed bilateral agreements with Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Armenia and was now getting ready to sign an agreement with the Russian Government.

Government Announces New Fuel Prices

LD2106133392 Moscow *Radio Moscow World Service in English* 1100 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] The Byelarusian Government has announced new fuel price rises. Petrol is 20 percent up, with gas almost doubling, however, fuel and diesel oil are both down. The latest increase comes as part of the recent deal with Russia.

Moldova

Delegation Not To Participate in Minsk Summit

OW2506183592 Moscow *INTERFAX in English*
1741 GMT 25 Jun 92

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Moldova's delegation will not be taking part in the meeting of the CIS heads of government due to begin in Minsk on June 26, said Dmitriy Montyanu, Moldova's permanent representative in Byelarus and the republic's plenipotentiary in the working group of the Council of the CIS heads of state and the Council of the CIS heads of government, in an interview to the INTERFAX correspondent.

In his words, this decision has been impelled by "a highly complicated political situation in Moldova, President Snegur's absence from Chisinau (he is currently in Istanbul), Prime Minister Valeriu Muravschii's intention to resign, as well as due to the continuing hostilities in the Dniester region".

Dmitriy Montyanu also said the Moldovan government has authorized him to take part in the meeting of the heads of governments in capacity of an observer.

Army Commander Threatens To Down Aircraft

OW2506195292 Moscow *INTERFAX in English*
1930 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Commander of the 14th Army warned Moldova Thursday [25 June] that any attempts to violate Dniester republic airspace will result in all planes and helicopters being shot down.

In its turn, the Moldovan media said in a statement distributed Thursday that "Alfa" special assignment forces and OMON [special-purpose militia detachment] units had arrived in Tiraspol from Russia.

Talking to "IF" [INTERFAX] State Secretary Valeriy Litskay neither confirmed nor denied the reports.

[In a related report carried in the same Moscow INTERFAX facsimile transmission received via Tokyo KYODO at 1930 GMT, INTERFAX reports that Moldovan Defense Minister Ion Kostash has denied reports of air raids on Tiraspol and Bendery.

[According to INTERFAX: "Addressing the Moldovan parliamentary session on Thursday, Kostash declared that 'there was nothing of the kind, there were no deliveries of helicopters from Romania, the national armed forces did not use weapons of mass destruction, and so on'.

["According to the Minister, the aim of this disinformation 'from Tiraspol' is to prevent the meeting of the Russian, Ukrainian, Moldovan, and Romanian leaders in Istanbul."]

War Costing Dniester R2-3 Million Per Day

OW2506201292 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1930 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Chairman of the Dniester breakaway republic Grigoriy Marakutsa said that the republic spends 2-3 million rubles a day on the war. Marakutsa released these figures at a press conference in Tiraspol Thursday [25 June] upon his return from Moscow. He said that Russia has not sent "a penny" to the Dniester region, and Tiraspol has not received its share of foreign humanitarian aid sent to Moldova.

Marakutsa said concerning the future of the Dniester republic, that after the Bendery events "we can no longer consider a federation, only independence".

Marakutsa said that since the intensification of the conflict the Dniester republic has lost nearly 300 people in Bendery alone, and a total of 500 have been killed.

Dniester's Marakutsa Not Pursuing Military Aid

LD2506223892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 2100 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] The trip by the chairman of the Dniester Supreme Soviet to Moscow did not pursue the aim of obtaining military assistance. According to a report by the NEGA agency, Marakutsa stated this at a news conference in Tiraspol upon his return from Moscow. During contacts with representatives of Russian commercial structures an accord was reached on the delivery to the Dniester region of 35-50,000 tonnes of grain in connection with the Moldovan food blockade.

During meetings with colleagues from other states, Marakutsa said that attention had been drawn to the fact that out of the humanitarian assistance arriving in Moldova, nothing is passed on to the Dniester region.

As the speaker of the Dniester region parliament stated, the daily expenditure of the Dniester region in connection with the war is evaluated at 2-3 million rubles. There are now some 70,000 refugees.

Dniester President Smirnov Comments on Conflict

OW2606085192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
0620 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Interview with Igor Smirnov, president of the Trans-Dniester Republic, by correspondent Nikolay Golovin; place and date not given; from "Problems & Opinions"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Golovin: Do you think the agreement reached in Dagomys between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk will contribute to the settlement of the Trans-Dniester conflict?

Smirnov: I am not familiar with all the details. We are not receiving any Moscow dailies, and the information released by television is inaccurate. I believe that in any case the meeting of the presidents of these two states will prove to be a stabilizing factor for the situation in the Trans-Dniester region and Moldova.

Golovin: How do you view the fact the Trans-Dniester region has not been represented at the talks in Istanbul from your perspective?

Smirnov: We have already expressed our official stance in that regard. We do not understand the situation when one of the two conflicting sides is not taking part in the talks. The talks apparently suffered as a result of it. At the same time, any meetings should certainly serve the goal of determining the political status of the Trans-Dniester Moldovan Republic.

Golovin: In the light of recent developments, how do you assess the role Russia is playing in settling the conflict in the Trans-Dniester region?

Smirnov: In my assessment, it is playing an historically consummated role of the guardian of Russian-speaking population from genocide by Moldova. This is how all of our people view its role. We are looking at Russia and Ukraine with the hope that they will not condone this genocide.

Golovin: Do you think the 14th Army can succeed as a disengaging force in this conflict?

Smirnov: There is a lot of controversy circulating about the 14th Army now, so, in a nutshell, I will tell you. If the 14th Army indeed were taking part in the conflict, it would have long been over. I am confident that the 14th

Army, as well as the Ukrainian forces, could become a stabilizing factor precluding the genocide and killing of people.

Golovin: Do you imply that the 14th Army and the Ukrainian troops could be used as peacekeeping forces?

Smirnov: We do not only imply this. In our appeal to the Supreme Councils of Russia and Ukraine we are asking them to defend our people from genocide. I believe the army should prevent further killing of people. Thereafter we will find political solutions to the other issues, which we are insisting on. Moldova's recent actions, however, which entailed much bloodshed, do not give us much hope to resolve this problem in a peaceful way.

Golovin: Based on our today's situation, what measures for the stage-by-stage settlement of the conflict would you envisage?

Smirnov: From our point of view, it would be imperative to commence immediate withdrawal of the Moldovan units from the territory of the Trans-Dniester region, put the legitimate powers elected by the popular vote in full control of the situation here, and initiate a political dialogue for the purpose of determining our political status. This seems to be the only way, so long as any settlement here is inconceivable when many people are dying every day, stores plundered, marauding and other crimes continuing. Until the withdrawal of the Moldovan troops, there will always be a reasons for a new conflict.

Golovin: The quadripartite mechanism for settling the conflict still continues to function either on the level of ministers of foreign affairs or on the level of the heads of state. Is Trans-Dniester going to request that its representatives join this process?

Smirnov: We have always been requesting this. On the other hand, I believe that the peacekeeping efforts of the four ministers of foreign affairs have become futile following the events in Bendery. We can only count on good results if this situation is addressed directly by the heads of states rather than by the ministers. We will be insisting on our participation in the talks—not only as a consultative party, but as the party enjoying the same status as the representatives of the republic of Moldova.

Golovin: Recently Leonid Kravchuk proposed that this problem could be resolved by way of giving the Trans-Dniester region the status of an autonomy. You have denied this proposal. Is it your final judgment?

Smirnov: First of all, some time ago Trans-Dniester proposed the autonomy as its political status. This variant, however, was declined by Moldova. Therefore, we are regarding Kravchuk's proposal as a step in the direction of determining our political status. As far as the autonomy is concerned, we would not concede to it after so many deaths in Bendery. There can be only one solution now: relations between our two states based on equality.

Military Observers Under Threat in Bendery

LD2506132392 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 0933 GMT 25 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Chisinau—According to the data of the Moldovan Interior Ministry, in the city of Bendery, a group of military observers from Moldova and Romania are under a direct threat of physical death. The well-informed sources connected with the Moldovan Interior Ministry further told PF [POSTFACTUM] that on June 19 a group of military observers suspended to fulfil its functions because of the beginning of military actions.

On June 21 and 22 military observers of Russia and Ukraine left the city of Bendery. Sixty-six Moldovan and Romanian officers remained in the city. They applied to the Foreign Ministry of Moldovan Republic for help, and were promised that on June 23 at 7.30 they would be brought out of the city of Bendery. The promise was not fulfilled.

POSTFACTUM was also told at the Interior Ministry of the Republic of Moldova that the Moldovan and Romanian officers have been living at a Bendery hotel without food, water or electric power for five days. The fires do not cease. The officers are constantly calling [word indistinct] to the Moldavian Foreign Ministry, where they are told that the question is being solved. However, there are no possibilities for the leadership of the Defense and Interior ministries of the Moldovan Republic to lead this group of officers out of the city.

Possibility of Bendery Offensive Discussed

LD2606091192 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 0730 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Text] Moldovan Vice Premier Koshkodan told INTERFAX that the decision on a possible Moldovan Armed Forces offensive on Bendery depends solely on the situation that takes shape there. He also noted that Dniester republic guards are out of control. Moldovan authorities cannot guarantee that they will not interfere. The Moldovan premier [title as heard] stressed that it is our task to ensure the safety not only of Moldovans on the left bank but also of Ukrainians and Russians subjected to violence inflicted by the guards.

Fighting Continues in Dniester Left Bank

LD2606093592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0805 GMT 26 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau, 26 Jun—Moldovan Army and police units and Dniester region armed formations continued to exchange fire on Moldova's left bank last night. Firing occurred along virtually the entire line of confrontation. The Moldovan Internal Affairs Ministry press center reports that police positions near Dubossary and

Bendery were under fire from all types of weapons. There was yet another attack on the Bendery police department; initial reports indicate that about ten people were wounded.

The Dniester region press center reports that a shell fell on a kindergarten during an attack on Grigoriopol, severely wounding a child. Two people were killed and four were wounded in the shelling. Several more were hurt in shooting near Dubossary and in Bendery.

[Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian at 0800 GMT on 26 June adds in a report by Tiraspol correspondent Gennadiy Varfolomeyev: "Vladimir (Kharkhenko), deputy chairman of the Bendery town executive committee, reports that the town was not bombarded on the night of 25-26 June. Sporadic gunshots were heard in the town. The town authorities are organizing supplies and the distribution of bread and food coming in from Tiraspol. The town has water and electricity. A south-eastern electricity grid team was fired upon on 25 June while replacing an electricity pylon linking the Tiraspol and Bendery power stations. The area near the pylon was mined. Fortunately, no one was hurt. The northern and western parts of Dubossary and the guards' positions were subjected to the usual fire from all kinds of weapons between 1700 on 25 June and 0500 on 26 June. Houses have been damaged. Eight people have been wounded. Grigoriopol was also subjected to fire overnight. There are casualties. There is no precise information about them so far."]

Situation in Dniester Conflict Zone 'Tense'

OW2606121492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1156 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The situation in the zone of the Dniester conflict remains tense. There was intensive shooting all along the frontline on Thursday [25 June].

Chief of the Moldovan Defence Ministry's press service Georgiy Muntanu said that on Thursday evening a tank of the 15th army [as received], passed to the Dniester guards, made several shots at the Right Bank from the village of Lunga in the Dubossary region. There were no victims.

Muntanu said that there were exchanges of fire on the bridgeheads of the villages of Cocieri and Cosnita in the Dubossary region. Several dozen mines were dropped on the positions of the Moldovan police in this region. Muntanu noted that over the past few days hundreds of buildings had been ruined in this area, and practically all residents have moved to the Right Bank.

The Moldovan Interior Ministry's press bureau informed IF [INTERFAX] that on the night of June 25 in Bendery, the local department of the Moldovan police was attacked with the backing of tanks and armored vehicles. The number of victims is being specified.

According to the Moldovan Defence Ministry's press center, on Thursday, units of the 14th army passed more tanks and armoured vehicles to the Dniester guards.

The press center of the Dniester government reported on Friday that Romania had supplied Moldova with several helicopters and several dozen armored vehicles. It also reports that on Thursday evening and night Moldovan armed forces shelled the positions of the guards in Bendery, Dubossary and Grigoriopol. Three guards and Cossacks were killed and several people were wounded.

Blizhniy Khutor Settlement Bombed by Air Force

LD2606105192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1000 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Text] We just received word from 14th Army Headquarters that two Moldovan Air Force aircraft bombed Blizhniy Khutor settlement, which sits near an oil reservoir, at 1200 today. The 14th Army's air defense fired at the targets several times.

14th Army Tanks Said Deployed Near Malayeshtiy

LD2606111892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
11048 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow, June 26 TASS—Two Moldovan military planes bombed Blizhniy Khutor, a village situated near oil reservoirs, on Friday [26 June], the command of the 14th Army stationed in the break-away Dniester republic said.

The Army anti-aircraft units opened retaliatory fire.

The MOLDOVA-PRES news agency reported that "special forces are also being involved in the conflict. Meanwhile, the 14th Army command continues to supply Dniester militants with ammunition, weapons and military hardware."

The news agency said that 20 tanks owned by the 14th Army have been deployed and camouflaged near the village of Malayeshtiy.

Alpha Battalion Troops Land in Tiraspol

LD2606133592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1200 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Citing reliable sources, MOLDOVA-PRES reports that an aircraft carrying Alpha battalion troops and members of a special-purpose militia detachment from Riga landed at a Tiraspol airfield.

Over 70 Percent of Population Flees Bendery

LD2606115192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1140 GMT 26 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Kholodyuk]

[Text] Bendery, June 26 TASS—The shelling of the Dniester city of Bendery from grenade launchers continued throughout the night, Vyacheslav Kebich, head of the city executive council, said.

He said marauding and pillaging are sweeping the city as its residents are fleeing the war zone. Over 70 per cent of 140,000 residents have already fled the city.

OMON [special-purpose militia detachment] and police units are dismantling equipment at abandoned industrial enterprises.

14th Army Issues Statement on Air Force Attacks

LD2606133192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1212 GMT 26 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunayskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 26 Jun—The Military Council of the 14th Army, deployed in the Dniester region, has issued a statement in which it emphasizes that the Army's air defense weapons will halt any aerial strikes against Dniester region civilians. The statement also notes that the leadership of the Republic of Moldova, despite saying it is devoted to peace, has not given up plans to escalate the armed conflict by using the Air Force. Thus, an attempt was undertaken this morning to carry out a bombing attack on the town of Tiraspol.

As an ITAR-TASS correspondent learned in a telephone conversation with Colonel Baranov, an aide to the commander of the Army, the document states that the statement of Ion Kostash, who is in charge of the military department of Moldova, on not using military aircraft against the Dniester region represents yet another attempt to confuse the world public and his own people and to conceal the crimes being perpetrated against the civilian population. He also noted that the radar screens of the Army's air defenses show the flights

of combat aircraft that have taken off from Romanian airfields situated along the border with the CIS.

Kravchuk's Remarks on Dniester Criticized

LD2606082792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0715 GMT 26 Jun 92

[By unidentified MOLDOVA-PRES-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Chisinau, 26 Jun—"The Ukrainian president's statement on conferring autonomous status upon the Dniester region is nothing more than interference in our state's internal affairs," Valeriu Matei, chairman of the parliamentary Commission on Issues of Glasnost and the Mass Media, told the agency correspondent.

Leonid Kravchuk reportedly said in Kiev on 22 June that the Dniester region should become an autonomous republic within Moldova and that if Moldova unites with Romania, this autonomous republic should have the right to determine its fate as its people decide.

The Moldovan deputy feels that there is no fundamental ethnic or economic criteria for the Dniester region to declare state autonomy. He compared Kravchuk's recent assertion on the historical specifics of the Dniester region to a match thrown into a powder keg. There are many multinational zones in the independent states of the former USSR, including Ukraine, which until recently had never been component parts of those states, Matei noted. If events proceed down the road to autonomous status, this will simply lead to the fragmentation of the CIS states and the unleashing of an irreversible process.

The Moldovan deputy claims that the term "Dniester region people" was simply thought up by Tiraspol leaders and was seized upon by the Russian mass media. He also says that "the 500,000" Ukrainians Kravchuk claims live in the Dniester region do not exist. The deputy recalled that a total of just over 600,000 people live there, of whom 240,000 are Moldavians, 170,000 Ukrainians, and 153,000 Russians.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Supports CIS Armed Forces Maintenance

PM2406084992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 23 Jun 92 p 3

[Report by Colonel A. Ladin: "Nursultan Nazarbayev: 'We Have Advocated and Continue To Advocate the Maintenance of the Joint Armed Forces in the Commonwealth'"]

[Text] The 20th graduation ceremony—and the first in the history of sovereign Kazakhstan—of officers of the Higher Combined-Arms Command School took place in Alma-Ata on 19 June. The lieutenants were greeted at the ceremony by Republic President Nursultan Nazarbayev. He awarded diplomas and chest badges to excellent-rated course graduates. In his welcoming address Nazarbayev stated: "In creating our army we have advocated and continue to advocate the maintenance of the Joint Armed Forces in the Commonwealth and state our readiness to coordinate constantly our efforts to strengthen international security. We will be true to the letter and the spirit of the Treaty on Collective Security and the bilateral treaty between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation."

The president also said that he is ready to accept into the ranks of the republic guard which is being formed for all Alma-Ata Higher Combined-Arms Command School graduates who so desire.

Law Adopted on Interior Ministry Troops

LD2406160792 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English
1306 GMT 24 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Alma-Ata—Kazakhstan's parliament adopted a law on Interior Ministry troops of the Republic of Kazakhstan on June 23.

Under the law, the Interior Ministry troops are entitled to protect state order, the rights and freedoms of citizens, guard important state facilities, collectional-labour establishments, provide assistance to Interior Ministry bodies in protecting public order and head off mass and group violations of public order. The president of the Republic of Kazakhstan controls all Interior Ministry troops deployed on the Republic's territory, defines the defence tasks before these troops during the wartime, appoints and relieves of office the commander of the Interior Ministry troops, and also issues orders on the regular call-up of citizens for active duty service. Servicemen of the Interior Ministry troops have the right to use, in cases stipulated by the law, physical force, service dogs and special means such as rubber batons, tear gas, [word indistinct], light and audio means of the divertive impact, means of the forcible stoppage of transport, water cannon, armored vehicles and special dye-stuff.

Nationalists Demonstrate at Parliament Building

LD2406205792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1400 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Kazakh nationalist radicals continue to demonstrate at the Supreme Soviet building in Alma-Ata, reports RIKa News Agency. They demand the resignation of the parliament, which consists predominantly of proteges of the former communist nomenklatura and deputies from the leadership of procommunist public organizations.

Friendship Treaty Signed With Uzbekistan

LD2506162192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1010 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By unidentified KAZTAG-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Turkestan, the Chimkent Region, June 25 TASS—Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan signed a Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance here on Wednesday [24 June] afternoon. The document was signed by the two countries' Presidents Nursultan Nazarbayev and Islam Karimov.

Both leaders emphasised the creative nature of the concluded agreement and expressed confidence that it will create new opportunities for deepening bilateral political, economic and cultural ties. The treaty also deals with ecological issues that affect the two neighbouring states' vital interests. The all-important among them is the problem of the Aral Sea that directly concerns all residents of this region.

The presidents adopted an appeal to the people of Tajikistan to stop fratricidal bloodshed and display good will and restraint to bring back peace and tranquility to Tajikistan's land. To accomplish this task, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan are ready to extend direct assistance. [sentence as received]

Rail Link With PRC City Inaugurated

PM2606100992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 0500 GMT 23 Jun 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast: Video report by A. Nugmanova and V. Zhilyakov, from Alma-Ata]

[Text] [Announcer] Today the first international train linked the capital of Kazakhstan with Urumchi, the capital of the Xinjiang-Uigur Autonomous Region of China.

[Nugmanova] The peoples of Kazakhstan and China have been waiting for this event for almost 40 years. After all, construction work on this railroad began back in 1956, but was mothballed for many years when there was a drastic change in relations.

Two years ago the two countries' railroads were linked up at the Druzhba-Ala Shankou border crossing. The

railroad between the two states will breathe new life, so to speak, into the Great Silk Road which used to link the East with the West in the old days.

Trains carrying mineral fertilizer and ore are now being dispatched from Kazakhstan to China. China, in turn, is sending food, household goods, and radio equipment. The railroad will boost the economy and open up colossal potential for all-around cooperation between the countries of Asia, the Pacific Region, Western Europe, and the Near East. In the longer term, the new railroad will reduce the freight route from the Pacific coast to Europe by more than 3,000 km.

Today President Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan ceremonially saw off the first passengers of the "Zhibek Zholi" ("Silk Route") Train to China. [video shows Alma-Ata station, train, ceremonial send-off]

Tajikistan

Government Issues Appeal, Threatens To Resign

LD2506171692 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service*
in Russian 1514 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe, 25 Jun—The Presidium of the Tajik Cabinet of Ministers has made an urgent appeal to the republic's people, political parties, and movements in connection with the catastrophic state of the economy which is being worsened by the continuing political confrontation in Tajikistan. The government has called on all opposing political forces to sit down at the negotiating table.

"The fate of the state and the people is in danger," the appeal states. "The separatist moods of individual leaders of local bodies of authority are placing under threat the integrity of the republic, the confrontation of various groups is continuing, and the economic crisis is increasing sharply."

As the appeal notes, the budget deficit has taken on catastrophic dimensions, food supplies to the population have worsened sharply, the production and social infrastructure is being destroyed, and the drain of highly qualified specialists from the republic is increasing.

Calling on all the opposing sides to sit down at the negotiating table with the aim of peacefully resolving existing contradictions and conflicts, the Cabinet of Ministers noted that unless this condition is fulfilled it will not be able to continue to fulfill its duties and will be forced to surrender its powers.

Today, the coordinating council of Tajikistan's ethnic communities made an urgent appeal to the republic's Supreme Soviet, in which it proposes that a number of clauses in the draft of the new constitution which de jure reinforce the inequality of nations be abolished or reexamined. Ignoring human rights and the rights of ethnic

communities in the draft constitution lays the basis for dangerous instability in the future, the appeal stresses.

In Tajikistan, the exodus of the nonnative population, primarily Russian-speakers, increases every day. "The migration train" is gathering speed not only because of the explosive situation in the republic and the growing influence in society of Islamic fundamentalism, but also in connection with the absence of legal guarantees for ethnic minorities.

Nabiyev Signs Decree on Weapons Surrender

OW2506174492 Moscow *INTERFAX* in English
1712 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyev Wednesday [24 June] signed a decree on the disarmament of conflicting military groups in the republic. The Ministry of Interior Affairs, the committee of national security, and the public prosecutor's office formed operational military groups to carry out the order. The groups will be provided with armored personnel carriers, cars, planes, and weapons, which they are authorized to use if necessary.

The decree also says that those who turn in their weapons within a week of the publication of the decree will not be prosecuted. The centers created to receive the weapons were ordered to guarantee complete anonymity to those handing in weapons.

The public prosecutor's office was given a 20-day period to complete the cases on illegal possession of weapons and send them to the court to prosecute individuals who have not handed in their weapons.

[In a related report carried in the same INTERFAX facsimile transmission received via Tokyo KYODO at 1712 GMT, INTERFAX reports Tajikistan's national reconciliation government has "appealed to the people, political parties, and national movements to end their conflicts and begin a dialogue."

[The report says the government released a statement that says "the question of independence, the wholeness of Tajikistan, and its national statehood is being decided now."

[The report adds: "The Presidium of the Cabinet of Ministers said that without peace the government 'doesn't stand a chance of working to pull the republic out of the current crisis.'"]

Movement Calls For CIS Troop Privatization

LD2506214692 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service*
in Russian 1255 GMT 24 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe, 24 Jun—The leaders of the Bloc of the United Democratic Forces of Tajikistan (so the former political opposition calls itself) insist on an "immediate privatization" of all CIS military subunits stationed on the territory of the republic. This was declared by Toir Abdusabbir, chairman of the popular movement Rastokhez, at a news conference which took place last Tuesday [23 June]. He pointed out that Tajikistan belongs to those few former Union republics whose government "puts up with the fact that military formations under a foreign flag are located on its territory."

This is not the first declaration by the opposition in which the government has been sharply attacked for its "lack of resolve, for being extremely slow about creating its own army, and in transferring military garrisons to the republic's jurisdiction." Major General Bakhrom Rakhmanov, chairman of the Republic's Defense Committee, shares the opposition's viewpoint. "It is more than strange to have a military department without having our own military formations," he said on television recently. There are also some other opinions. In particular, 42 year old Colonel Mukhriddin Asurov, recently appointed commander of the Dushanbe garrison, believes that "forming our own armed forces involves coping with difficult problems, primarily economic ones."

'National Unity' Formed To Normalize Situation

LD2506211692 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network
in Tajik 0007 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] The Congress for National Unity [Kongrecci-Yitihod-i Milli] has been formed in the republic with the aim of normalizing the situation. The constituent meeting was held at the Tajik Academy of Sciences. Please listen to our report from the meeting:

[Begin correspondent recording] The participants of this meeting, after long discussions and debates, came to the conclusion that the formation of the Congress for National Unity is very important, and that this Congress should be joined by representatives from all organizations and political parties. The tasks of the Congress are the normalization of the situation in the republic and an improvement of the peoples' standard of living.

Sayfuddin Torayev, peoples' deputy, was elected chairman of the Preparatory Committee. It is envisaged that on Tuesday [30 June] a news conference will be held by the Preparatory Committee when the date of the conference of the Congress for National Unity will be defined. After the meeting I spoke to Sayfuddin Torayev, chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Congress for National Unity, and I asked him to speak on this Congress for National Unity, its rules, and program.

[Torayev] In my opinion it is known to everyone that the situation is becoming more tense and conflict is on the increase. The fratricidal killing is continuing. Unfortunately, the organizations and societies from these separate organizations which embodies one district have [words indistinct]. This is a reflection that the people have the aim of achieving one goal, when in fact the move toward a separation of the republic is gaining ground on a daily basis.

For this reason we, one group of like-minded people, believe that the Congress for National Unity should urgently bring about an end to the fratricidal killing and establish lasting peace in Tajikistan, abolish separatism as soon possible, and on this basis raise the economy of Tajikistan and rescue Tajikistan from this deep economic crises; the Government of Tajikistan should play its role in this matter. We understand this well. If the Congress for National Unity is recognized by all the existing parties, organizations, and societies which have been formed and join this Congress, then in my opinion the Congress for National Unity has fulfilled its duty to its people, country, and our homeland of Tajikistan.

Today, I am totally confident that, as you witnessed, the discussions and debates were very good and those who participated here today have one belief, that in reality there should be peace and we should bring an end to the fratricidal killing. I would like to take the opportunity to state that even now the fratricidal killing is continuing. We believe that in reality a third group exists which does not want peace in Tajikistan and for Tajikistan to exist as a state. When we went to the rayons and oblasts and spoke to the people there was not even one person who wanted to have this fighting and fratricidal killing. No one wants it. I fully believe that the third force—it is possible that they may be [word indistinct]—it is possible that it exists outside Tajikistan, outside the borders of Tajikistan. They do not want Tajikistan to exist as a state. For this reason we the people of Tajikistan ought to understand properly. We must stop this fratricidal killing and think for one minute. We ought to understand it properly. In appealing to my brothers, mothers, and fathers, I would like to say: Awaken, do not become victims of these rumors and conspiracies. Others want us to fight and to destroy Tajikistan. For this reason we should be (?vigilant). [end recording]

ITAR-TASS Correction to Draft Criticism

LD2506161592

ITAR-TASS supplies the following correction to the item headlined "'Experts' Criticize Draft Constitution," published in the 25 June Central Eurasia DAILY REPORT, pages 72-73:

Column two, paragraph one, from end of dateline make read: June 25 TASS—The outflow of non-native population... (changing "influx" to "outflow")

Armenia

Ministry Calls On International Community

NC2506201492 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First
Program Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Statement issued by the Armenian Foreign Ministry in Yerevan on 25 June—read by announcer]

[Text] With the large-scale 12 June military operations launched against Nagorno-Karabakh, the Azerbaijani Republic has confirmed that its new authorities have adopted an even harsher policy on solving the Karabakh problem than the previous regime.

In line with this policy, Azerbaijan aspires to present the Karabakh conflict as a territorial problem fomented by Armenia and to drag Armenia into military operations to expose it as a usurper.

Despite the numerous statements issued by the former and current Azerbaijani authorities in favor of a peaceful solution to the Karabakh problem through political means, it is obvious that over the last four years the Azerbaijani side has upheld, and continues to uphold, the following clear unequivocal stance: Nagorno-Karabakh is Azerbaijani territory and solving the problem is a domestic issue.

Azerbaijan's peace-loving pretense before the international community pursues solely propaganda objectives. Thus it aims to conceal the plan now being implemented to forcibly deport the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh. This policy is demonstrated by the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry's statements and numerous protest notes addressed to the Armenian Foreign Ministry. [Words indistinct] it must be pointed out that these notes are composed by the same propaganda machine that is trying to turn international opinion against Armenia. The Azerbaijani side sends these statements mainly to foreign diplomatic missions, press agencies, and mass media organizations. Occasionally they send them to the Armenian Foreign Ministry. In general, these statements [words indistinct] for punitive measures by Azerbaijan against Nagorno-Karabakh or Armenia.

All efforts by the Armenian Foreign Ministry to conduct a political dialogue with the Azerbaijani are useless. [Words indistinct] issues raised remain unanswered.

The international community must realize that the Azerbaijani political line, from Sumgait to Shaumyanovskiy, has been unequivocal and unchangeable: It is the transformation of the Karabakh question into the Armenian question; it is the undeclared war unleashed by Azerbaijan against Karabakh, which has chosen the civilized course of national self-determination and of creating an independent democratic statehood, and against Armenia and the Armenian people.

The Armenian Foreign Ministry draws the international community's attention to the fact that the Armenian

people have already suffered one great tragedy due to the community's indifference and unwillingness to grasp important facts. In order to forestall a new tragedy, we call on the international community to recognize and defend the Nagorno-Karabakh people's right to self-determination and to pursue efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Karabakh conflict.

Further on Supreme Soviet Session, Speeches

PM2606102192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
25 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Sergey Bablummyan report: "Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan Does Not Intend To Give Way to Opposition"]

[Text] Yerevan—During his closing address to the extraordinary session of the republic parliament, Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan formulated the approaches to solving the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh by which he intends henceforth to be guided, despite the opposition's views.

The solution of the Karabakh problem must be based on reality, and impossible goals must not be set, according to the president. "We cannot ignore the norms of international law and are bound to take account of world public opinion. I hope that the common sense and wisdom of the people will prevent irresponsible forces plunging us into rash action, Levon Ter-Petrosyan stated. "Ensuring the safety of Nagorno-Karabakh's population in conjunction with continuing the negotiation process should remain the basic component of our policy toward Nagorno-Karabakh. The only alternative to this is the further intensification of confrontation and an unending bloody war. I reject that futile route."

It should be noted that the former leaders of what was then Soviet Armenia adopted a similar stance, but the then opposition, now the leadership of Armenia, accused them of betraying national interests and defeatist attitudes.

Levon Ter-Petrosyan devoted a considerable part of his somewhat emotional speech to replying to the opposition's demand for his resignation. "This can only be obtained by constitutional means," he stressed, explaining that this would mean a nationwide referendum. However, the president stated, I reserve the right to ask the people to express their attitude in this way to the fate of the Armenian parliament.

On the evening of 23 June Levon Ter-Petrosyan left for Turkey, where he will be taking part in the conference on economic cooperation among the countries of the Black Sea basin.

Kirovakan Renamed

NC2606084392 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First
Program Network in Armenian 1850 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Acceding to a request by the Kirovakan city soviet, the Armenian Supreme Soviet Presidium has changed the name of Kirovakan to Vanadzor.

Further Reportage on Fighting, Situation

NC2506153292 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First
Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Mayak radio reported today that the Azerbaijani Army has captured Mardakert after having inflicted heavy losses on Armenian self-defense forces.

ARTSAKH [Nagorno-Karabakh] NEWS AGENCY informed us that this is a distorted report aimed at justifying the enormous losses suffered by the Azerbaijani Army recently. Nearly 600 Azerbaijanis died in battles in Mardakertskiy Rayon alone.

In fact, today the Azerbaijani armed organizations, supported by five tanks and [words indistinct], tried to break through the Armenian defenses and launch an attack toward Mardakert. However, the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic Self-Defense Force Headquarters told a SNARK correspondent that the Armenian freedom fighters repulsed the attack, destroying two tanks and inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy in the process.

'Wide-Scale Attack' Launched

NC2506192092 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri
1330 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Dear listeners: We now present a report on the latest developments in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] and Armenia's border rayons:

The Azerbaijani leaders are gradually broadening their aggression against Nagorno-Karabakh. Azerbaijani Army units have launched a wide-scale attack with support from the Russian Army. The offensive is near Mardakertskiy. Using 50 tanks and dozens of armored vehicles, the Azerbaijan military units launched a three-pronged attack on Mardakert on 23 June. The fighting continued throughout the night and the next day. Regardless of the fact that the Azerbaijani units were many times superior in number and military hardware, the fighters of the Armenian self-defense forces put up a strong resistance and forced the enemy units to retreat, inflicting casualties and destroying a quantity of combat equipment. The Azerbaijani attack was halted in all directions. Several tanks and armored vehicles used by the attacking units were damaged.

We wish to note that the Azerbaijani units used their air force during the military operations. Mardakert and several other residential areas were bombarded by MI-24 helicopters and SU-25 aircraft. Dozens of bombs were dropped on Mardakert. Nurs missiles were also fired on the city. Thirteen Armenian fighters were killed and 16 others were wounded in the clashes.

The battle front moved to the southern sectors of Leninavan, Khasanavan, and (Lernakh) on 24 June. No information has been received yet about the clashes near Chayly, (Madavish), and Talish, near the Terter River.

Azerbaijani President Abulfaz Elchibey has said that he wants to find a peaceful solution to the problem; however, he has been using every opportunity to try and solve the problem through military operations. Let us note that Azerbaijan is widely using military hardware it illegally acquired from the CIS military units.

Clashes have been taking place in other rayons in Nagorno-Karabakh. An attack was launched with armored vehicles from Abdal and Gulably in Azerbaijan on Abdyr and Norshen in Martuninskiy Rayon yesterday morning. The attack was repulsed. The Armenian self-defense forces countered the attack and destroyed two firing positions in Abdal. Three Armenian fighters were killed and several other freedom fighters were wounded in the attack.

Significant work is being carried out to receive and resettle refugees in the NKR. The refugees have already been provided with accommodations and provisions. About 3,000 of the refugees from Shaumyanovskiy Rayon are Russian. President Elchibey expressed a Bolshevik-like opinion and invited several Russian and Kurdish citizens to the area, saying that they were refugees from Armenia. Not satisfied with this, Elchibey said that Armenia must compensate the people. It would be very difficult, however, to convince the population on that matter. The entire world is aware that the rights of the minority in Azerbaijan have been grossly violated and are being violated now.

Everything has been done to create conditions for the Kurds to live in Armenia. A group of Kurds left their homes after being misled by the provocation of the nationalists in Azerbaijan. The Kurds who left Armenia sold their houses at good prices. Thousands of Kurds live in our republic. Newspapers and books are published in Kurdish in Armenia. Radio programs are aired in Kurdish at 1230 every day. A Kurdish department exists in the Armenian Academy of Sciences, and renowned representatives and scientists of the Kurdish people work in that department. In addition, a Kurdish department has existed within the Armenian Writers Union for decades. The Kurds believe that Yerevan is a scientific and cultural center for the Kurdish people. A Kurdish alphabet has been created in Armenia. As in the case of the other minorities in our republic, the Kurds are represented in all the state structures. The Kurds in Azerbaijan, however, are being assimilated. Their passports identify them as Azerbaijanis, not Kurds. Red Kurdistan, that is Kurdish autonomy, has been removed by the ruling circles in Azerbaijan. The struggle waged by the Kurds to reinstate their national autonomy was [word indistinct] by Azerbaijan and the Kurdish people's intellectuals were sent to prison. It would have been better had the Azerbaijani leaders considered the pitiful situation of their own kin who immigrated from Armenia. It would have been better if they had provided the Kurds with accommodation and employment.

We will now report on the incidents that have taken place in Armenia's border region in the past two days.

Tension remains along the entire border. Azerbaijan has massed many armed units and military hardware in its bordering rayons. Many of Armenia's border rayons have been hit with various types of fire from the neighboring republic.

Shagat in Sisian Rayon was hit with artillery fire on 24 June. No damage was caused but two residents were wounded. [name indistinct] and Bartrun were hit with artillery fire as well. Berdaper, Sarydzhukh, and [name indistinct] in Idzhevanskiy Rayon were also fired on. Noyemberyanskiy Rayon is one of the most tense areas in the border. [Name indistinct], Voskepar, and Voskevank were fired on from the neighboring republic on 24 June.

The situation in Armenia's Tavushskiy, Krasnoselskiy, and Vardenisskiy Rayons has been relatively calm. The release of two people, a father and son taken hostage two days ago, has been possible as a result of talks held in Vardenisskiy Rayon. The Azerbaijani units maintained their military operations near the eastern border in Gorisskiy Rayon yesterday, hitting Kornidzor with Grad rockets. Four houses were destroyed and several others were seriously damaged in the attack. No one was killed or wounded.

One of the most important developments in the border region during the week was the agreement reached to halt the exchange of fire between Azerbaijan's Kedabekskiy and Armenia's Krasnoselskiy Rayons. We hope that the sides will remain committed to the agreement and the other border rayons will make similar initiatives.

'Guerrilla Warfare' Reported

NC2506200492 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1850 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] KARABAKH NEWS AGENCY has reported that the Armenian self-defense forces, carrying out guerrilla warfare, in Mardakertskiy Rayon waged positional battles around Leninavan, Dzhaylu, [name indistinct], and Gasankaya last night and this morning. The Azerbaijani armed formation's (?advance) on Mardakert has been halted. A substantial number of enemy tanks and armored cars were hit. However, massing of new military hardware is being observed in Agdamskiy Rayon. These units may be introduced into the battle.

(Akhtur) and Norshen in Martuninskiy Rayon were hit with Grad rockets from Azerbaijani positions in Gyulabli. The peaceful population suffered as a result. Three persons died and 15 were injured.

'Relative Calm' Noted

NC2606083492 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] It has been reported that Voskepar village in Noyemberyanskiy Rayon came under rifle and artillery

fire yesterday, destroying a number of residential buildings. The village also came under fire from automatic weapons, but the situation was calm last night and this morning.

Khndzoresk and Bardzruni villages in Vaykskiy Rayon and the road linking (Berdapert), Sarygyug, Vazashen, and [name indistinct] villages in Idzhevanskiy Rayon were shelled on 24 June. Again, relative calm prevailed in the region last night and this morning.

Relative calm has been reported in Kornidzor in Gorisskiy Rayon for the last two days. The villages had been under fierce attack by Grad rockets. The Goris-Lachin road is open.

According to reports from the Armenian Interior Ministry and rayon soviet executive committees, relative calm has prevailed in Tavushskiy, Vardenisskiy, Krasnoselskiy, Sisianskiy, and Kapanskiy Rayons since last night.

Azerbaijan

Units' Status Discussed With Russian Delegation

NC2606082992 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1900 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Isa Kamberov, chairman of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet, received a Russian parliamentary defense delegation headed by [name indistinct] on 22 June. The meeting focused on the status of the border units and the guarantees and security of the officers and men serving in these units.

Kamberov recalled the talks between the state secretaries and defense ministers on this issue and noted the need for Azerbaijan and Russia to agree on the status of the border units. Iskender Allahverdiyev, chairman of the Azerbaijan Committee for the Defense of the State Border, briefed the delegation on the current situation.

It was agreed to establish working groups to make an on-site study of the situation, hold talks, and draw up a joint document on the status of the border units.

Fighting in Agdam, Other Areas Reported

PM2606095992 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 23 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast: Video report by unidentified correspondent]

[Text] [Announcer] According to information from Azerbaijan, Armenian troops violated the republic's border today, but, following several hours of intense fighting, they were forced to retreat. Azerbaijan is also reporting a concentrated attack on the territory of Nakhichevan Republic by Armenia.

[Correspondent over aerial view of Agdam] This is the city of Agdam. The city is living under wartime laws. It

is under constant fire day and night, and this is actually more intense at night. While we were there the building of the commandant's office was attacked by hail guns and partially destroyed. The most efficient units belong to the Ministry of Defense, but Major General Mamedov, first deputy minister of internal affairs, has to periodically dispatch demoralized militia subunits from Agdam. Many people told us about foreign mercenaries fighting on the Armenian side. The commandant of the Agdam emergency area showed us documents belonging to an Armenian from Bayreth who was killed in action. According to him, his body was found with a grenade launcher in his hands. He also has the identity papers of two Frenchwomen. According to the commandant, they were snipers. They threw away their personal belongings during the retreat. However, only the embassies of their countries can establish for certain who these people were and how they came to occupy military positions. [video shows view of Agdam, soldiers, tanks, commander, mercenaries' identification papers]

Further on Fighting

LD2506160692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1428 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By AZERINFORM-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Baku, 25 Jun—At noon today a rocket and artillery bombardment of Agdam, begun at dawn by Armenian armed formations, was continuing. According to a report by an AZERINFORM correspondent, enemy artillery pieces and launchers are firing indiscriminately at the Azerbaijani villages of Gyulably, Abdal, and Shelli close to the town, as well as the inhabited areas of Pirdzhamal, Dakhraz, and Nakhichevanik, freed earlier by the national army.

Confirming this information, the Azerbaijani Ministry of Defense stated that during the barrages in the Agdam zone, one person died and there are injured. Serious damage has been caused to the rayon center and nearby villages. According to information from the military department, over the past days the Armenian side has become somewhat more active in the Tauzskiy and Kubatlinskiy rayons bordering the neighboring republic. In the first of these, during the barrage of adjacent villages and enemy attacks, two people were killed. In the second, an infringement of the republic's airspace was registered.

The Ministry of Defense press center has stated that two out of three Mi-24 combat helicopters encroaching here late yesterday evening from the Gorisskiy rayon of Armenia were shot down. One was burned out, while the crew of the second helicopter managed to land the craft on Azerbaijani territory. They were evacuated from where they landed by the crew of the third helicopter. Earlier intensive fire had been directed from the helicopters at Azerbaijani posts and settlements situated close to the border of the two republics.

Georgia

Tbilisi Back to 'Normal Pace of Life'

LD2506165392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1526 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By SAKINFORM correspondent Yuriy Goldman for TASS]

[Text] Tbilisi, 25 Jun—"The game is over," Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the Georgian State Council, stated, describing yesterday's attempted revolt in the republic's capital. "This is the last action of the bandits, a sally by the blackest forces." According to Shevardnadze, an even more frightening tragedy could have unfolded in the city, but the people foiled the plans of the insurgents by actively supporting the present leadership of the republic.

Today, the day after the revolt, Tbilisi has once again returned to its normal pace of life. Enterprises, all shops, restaurants and cafes, cinemas and concert halls are operating. The television center has been badly damaged and expensive apparatus has been almost totally destroyed. According to preliminary estimates, losses amount to many millions of rubles. However, Georgian television continues its broadcasts. The republic's inhabitants can also watch programs from the two Moscow channels.

Cabinet Calls 24 Jun Events Coup Attempt

OW2506215892 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1930 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At its Thursday [25 June] session the Georgian State Council qualified the actions of supporters of ousted president Zviad Gamsakhurdia June 24 as an attempt of a state coup with the use of an armed force. The members of the Cabinet of Ministers developed concrete measures to prevent similar actions in the future.

At the session the acting Georgian Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua declared that the government and the law enforcement bodies are to take their share of guilt and responsibility, in particular, "for a loyal attitude towards destructive, anti-democratic forces".

[In a related report carried in the same transmission received via Tokyo KOYDO at 1930 GMT, INTERFAX reports on Georgian Interior Minister Roman Gventadze's statements at a news conference in Tbilisi concerning the 24 June events. According to Gventadze: "The attack against Interior Ministry troops early in the morning and the subsequent seizure of the TV tower and studios in Tbilisi by Zviad Gamsakhurdia's supporters was due to the treason by 29 Interior Ministry troops, including 12 officers." The report also says: "A total of 304 sub-machineguns, ammunition, tanks, two APCs

[armored personnel carriers] and 3 trucks were captured. As a result, five people were killed and 21 others injured on both sides, official sources said."

[The report adds: "Georgia's Prosecutor-General Vakhtang Razmadze told the news conference that 65 participants in the attack were detained on Wednesday.

["Another participant in the news conference, director of the Intelligence and Information Bureau, Irakli Patiasvili, has added that according to his sources the action was originally scheduled for July 1. However, in connection with the announced meeting of Eduard Shevardnadze and Boris Yeltsin at Dagomys on June 24, Gamsakhurdia ordered to force the operation to hold it precisely on that day."]

Link Between Abkhaz Parliament, Gamsakhurdia

LD2606002292 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 25 Jun 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Roman Gventsadze, Georgian internal affairs minister, has announced that the actions of the Abkhaz Supreme Soviet and the seizure of the Ministry of Internal Affairs building are a provocation and declared the possibility of the institution of criminal proceedings against Vladislav Ardzinba, the republic's new minister, who led this action yesterday.

[Correspondent A. Lobiladze] Yesterday's terrorist action, carried out by a group of supporters of the ex-president, cannot be regarded as a separate event. The point is that simultaneously in Sukhumi troops of the Abkhazian Supreme Soviet, under the leadership of Vladislav Ardzinba, attacked the Ministry of Internal Affairs building and Givi Lominadze, the Abkhazi internal affairs minister who displeased them. After yesterday's clash, he was delivered to Tbilisi in serious condition.

On the whole territory of Samachablo [Georgian name for South Ossetia], the Ossetian side went onto the attack, firing from rocket launchers and heavy machine guns on the villages of (?Chirbety), Tamarasheni, Nikozi, (?Eretvi), and (?Eretmeti).

At the same time, in individual regions of western Georgia, there were cases of the activation of separatist-minded groups. Thus, one has to suppose the Zviadists had as their objective not only the collapse of the meeting of Eduard Shevardnadze and Boris Yeltsin, but also a coup d'etat, for whose implementation they were relying on the support of the people. Happily, this did not happen.

However, one can already say today that Vladislav Ardzinba is closely linked with Zviad Gamsakhurdia and is a supporter of his. After all, the basic mass of Zviadists today are holed up in Sukhumi.

Official Evicted From Office

LD2606134192 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Report by correspondent K. Bzhaniya from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Events in Tbilisi merely coincided with the operation to evict from the building of the Abkhaz Ministry of Internal Affairs its former chief, Lieutenant General Givi Luminadze, who was appointed to that office by Georgia three years ago. A former member of the State Committee for the State of Emergency, Luminadze, who was removed from his post along with the Abkhaz Government that resigned, occupied his office for almost two months, refusing to obey the Abkhaz parliament. The Georgian State Council supported his action.

The situation called for a solution and from early morning all the entrances to the republican Ministry of Internal Affairs were blocked by Abkhaz internal affairs troops. At midday, the operation to evict Luminadze was completed without casualties or arrests while the lieutenant general flew to Tbilisi by plane.

Tskhinvali Fire Continues; Arrests Noted

LD2606100392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0754 GMT 26 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, 26 Jun—The quadripartite meeting on South Ossetia held in Dagomys several days ago gave hope to its residents but so far has brought neither peace nor accord to the region. Shots are still heard in the Tskhinvali zone, people are dying, and the flood of refugees to North Ossetia does not cease.

The South Ossetian Supreme Soviet and the North Ossetian Security Ministry report that last night passed relatively calmly in this region. However, Tskhinvali was periodically fired upon from small arms and sniper rifles from the Georgian villages of Nikozi, Tamarasheni, and Kekhvi. There are casualties among peaceful residents: one person killed and six people wounded.

The North Ossetian parliament has satisfied Armenia's request on resuming gas supplies via the Transcaucasian pipeline, which was blocked about a month ago in an attempt to attract the attention of the public and the leadership of Georgia and Russia to the critical situation in South Ossetia. However, the Georgian military highway remains blocked. Motor transport from the Transcaucasus can reach Russia only via Baku and the Black Sea coast.

[Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian at 0800 GMT on 26 June adds in its "Novosti" newscast: "(?DR) press agency reports that Georgian television aired an official statement on 25 June reporting the arrest of 12 people who took a direct part in the recent attempted coup in

Tbilisi. It was also reported that a group of television staff who supported the conspirators was arrested and that two official newspapers which supported Gamsakhurdia were closed.”]

S. Ossetian Minister Warns of Long Conflict

OW2606085992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
0620 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Interview with Vladimir Kochiyev, South Ossetia minister of internal affairs, by correspondent Nikolay Golovin in Tskhinvali; date not given; from “Problems & Opinions”; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Correspondent: How would you assess the current situation in Tskhinvali?

Kochiyev: In my opinion, Georgia is ruthlessly subjecting the people of South Ossetia to direct genocide. I will never believe that Georgia’s leaders are not aware of the actual situation there, or they do not know that Georgian raiders, regardless of casualties, are methodically destroying whole living quarters in the city, seeking to eradicate what they term “the Ossetian element in Georgia”. If the raiders are not answerable to the Georgian State Council, acting on their own, the Georgian government should give way to the real powers-that-be who would bear responsibility for their words.

The fact that the Georgia is blatantly ignoring its commitments, presupposed by the cease-fire agreement concluded in the vil. [abbreviation unknown] Kazbegi on June 10, points to a reluctance in Tbilisi to seek a peaceful solution to this problem.

Correspondent: How many people are left in the city?

Kochiyev: I cannot give you any exact data. We just don’t have enough time nor the resources to conduct a census even in rough figures. Before the onset of the hostilities, the population of Tskhinvali comprised 47 thousand people. Now it has decreased to 15-17 thousand people at most, only 3 thousand of them being capable of offering armed resistance to the attackers.

Correspondent: What kind of weapons are the defenders armed with?

Kochiyev: Mostly automatic rifles.

Correspondent: Can you confirm that South Ossetian refugees have stormed military ammunition depots? What is your attitude toward such actions?

Kochiyev: Unfortunately, I know of such facts. Moreover, their assaults of the depots entailed some casualties. We would certainly want to avoid all this. In the meantime, in accusing the South Ossetian refugees of such activities, the leaders in North Ossetia and Russian Federation ought to bear in mind that they have not been paying due attention to the problem of Tskhinvali or to

the chances of its population to survive. Many a peaceful resident spilled his or her blood there, and no one seemed to care.

I would also have to remind you that during the allotment of the former Soviet military gear Georgia receives many tanks, APCs [armored personnel carriers], guns, aircraft, and even warships. The Ossetians, on the other hand, have to resort to unlawful actions in order to defend their homes from the attackers who either do not report to Georgia’s State Council in reality or just pretend they don’t.

The people of South Ossetia are waging an armed struggle for their self-determination and sovereignty, whereas the Georgian side seems to be inclined not only to deprive the Ossetians of their land and the right to live on it, but of their national consciousness as well.

Correspondent: Do you see any way out of this situation?

Kochiyev: The way I see it, in order to settle the crisis, it would be necessary for Georgia, South and North Ossetia, and Russia to agree on a cease-fire, first in Tskhinvali then throughout South Ossetia. If they do not do it now, the situation will continue to aggravate, and it will gradually cross the line when the warring sides will no longer agree to come to the negotiations table. This crisis may develop into “a hundred-year war” which is equally undesirable for both Georgia and Ossetia.

South Ossetia’s Kulumbegov Interviewed

PM2506130592 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS FAX
DIGEST in English 23 Jun 92

[Interview with Trez Kulumbegov, chairman of the South Ossetian Supreme Soviet, by Mikhail Shevelev in Tskhinvali; date not given: “We’ll be together with Russia”]

[Text] An interview from South Ossetia Supreme Soviet Chairman Torez Kulumbegov was granted to MOSCOW NEWS’ Mikhail Shevelev.

The tape of the interview with the South Ossetian leader has gunfire in the background—as Tskhinvali was under fire. I expected Kulumbegov to point out the shots as a proof of the Georgian aggression but the man seemed to be oblivious to the shots; he got used to them, and they became part of background noise.

[Shevelev] When you returned here after being released from prison last winter, what was your impression of South Ossetia?

[Kulumbegov] I saw dislocation and blockade—both economic and informational. However, we are holding out, perhaps because we feel that our cause is right. We do not want anything that we do not have a right to, only freedom, equality, and peace.

[Shevelev] Are you not sorry now that you have announced South Ossetia’s independence?

[Kulumbegov] Not in the least. We want to be within the Russian Federation. A lot of blood has been spilt, particularly in the last three years, so we cannot be part of Georgia any more.

[Shevelev] No matter who rules Georgia?

[Kulumbegov] We saw one power succeed another. People who had been living side by side with us practically betrayed us. Now they have been filled with poisonous nationalism and chauvinism and do not remember the good. They have come out siding with fascists. We can't forgive and forget this.

[Shevelev] Many South Ossets believe that Russia is betraying them.

[Kulumbegov] We are not being betrayed. In fact we have been betrayed, but by Russia's Government, rather than Russia as a nation. We and Russians are of the same faith. We share a common history. We fought for the same cause. Russia has never had any other reliable ally in the Northern Caucasus. Many nations are drifting away from Russia, except the Ossets, but the Russian Government refuses to accept us. I believe that Russians sympathize with us not because we are Ossets, but because our cause is just.

[Shevelev] But Russia also wants good relations with Georgia. After all, Russia does not have many ports on the Black Sea.

[Kulumbegov] An attempt to befriend Georgia at the expense of the small and long-suffering Ossetian nation represents a short-sighted policy. It is impossible to build happiness on others' misery. It is immoral, and history will eventually pass its judgement about it. This policy will ultimately backfire on Russia.

[Shevelev] Why did Georgia cause so many conflicts: in South Ossetia, Abkhazia, Adzharia?

[Kulumbegov] Georgians were imbued with the idea that they are a supreme nation. They were told that their land and history are special. Even the sun shines differently in Georgia! This could not but have its effect on the mentality of the people, particularly the younger generations. The three other nations in the autonomous republic, each in a subservient position, further corrupted Georgians' minds. We were not allowed to resolve even simple issues without consulting with the Georgians. I heard all this from my father, who was champion of human rights like myself. Tbilisi has been working on the removal—through various means—of the non-Georgian population from here for a long time. They have barred access to higher schooling for non-Georgians, and pursue other discriminatory policies. We represent the only autonomous region of the former USSR, which is now less populous than it was before the 1917 Revolution.

[Shevelev] But today, a politician who is well aware of the world community's treatment of the genocide against

a small nation has come to power in Tbilisi and he knows that he cannot count on war.

[Kulumbegov] Eduard Shevardnadze is well aware of the real situation in South Ossetia. He was Georgian Communist Party first secretary for 15 years in the past. I suffered repressions for openly speaking the truth, under him. I criticized the cadres placement practice and the practice of fixing the figures. I was expelled from the party on two different occasions, for my alleged "misrepresentation of the socio-economic development" of the area and "libel against dignitaries". When this man speaks about democracy and justice I cannot accept the idea that he is sincere. Why was reunification of West and East Germany a positive development, while reunification of South Ossetia and North Ossetia, is not?

[Shevelev] We, journalists report what is happening here. Our audiences are disgusted. But the fighting goes on. What is South Ossetia counting on?

[Kulumbegov] It will be easier for us to gain freedom with all the world speaking about this nation suffering from genocidal policy.

[Shevelev] What were the accusations against you at this past winter's trial?

[Kulumbegov] They accused me of torturing people. But in fact, I forbade my men to do any harm to the prisoners or anyone else. In fact, I myself suffered from treatment I outlawed for my men.

[Shevelev] Were you tortured while in prison?

[Kulumbegov] Very much so.

[Shevelev] But is there any Georgian politician you believe and with whom it would be easier to carry out a dialogue?

[Kulumbegov] Until the Georgian nation gets out of its present shock, I do not have faith in any government. Fire can be ceased, but hate never can. To quench the hatred and all that it brings forth, we must have a sanitary cordon between the two nations.

[Shevelev] I know that the Chairman of Georgia's State Council, Jaba Ioseliani rather likes you.

[Kulumbegov] I also have a lot of sympathy for the man. When in prison, he often protested against my own imprisonment. He used to say to the investigator: "Why did you arrest Kulumbegov? He is a champion of the rights of his nation!" In fact we were accused in the same case.

[Shevelev] You say you discriminate between Russians and the Russian Government, but who among the Russian politicians has the most appeal for you?

[Kulumbegov] The soul of Russians is pure, and the Russian nation can produce leaders with pure souls. But I cannot discern a single one capable of resolving the crisis here. I like Rutskoy and Filatov but the current

situation demands resolute actions rather than harsh pronouncements. I am against a dictatorship. God forbid we should return to the past. But one must bang a fist on the tabletop in order to stop the bloodshed. We cannot be called true democrats if we cannot put an end to the bloody conflict.

[Shevelev] Can you yourself effect change by banging your fist?

[Kulumbegov] I would if I were in the shoes of Rutskoy or Yeltsin, order would be restored within a month. But during my absence here (in prison—Ed.) much has changed, and no banging is now likely to produce any effect, apart from undermining one's own authority.

[Shevelev] Is the real power in South Ossetia the power of the military?

[Kulumbegov] We need clever politicians capable of using the military machinery to enforce order. All those opposing that policy must be brought to law.

[Shevelev] Is there any opposition against you?

[Kulumbegov] Yes there is, but I am tolerant towards it, but when a scramble for ministerial posts begins, I am no longer tolerant.

[Shevelev] Who is now controlling the South Ossetian army? You?

[Kulumbegov] There is no such army. There are separate armed formations. I feel that they sympathize with me. But there are very different people among the men. Some of them are notoriously short-sighted.

[Shevelev] Speaking about strategic objectives, what is your attitude towards the possibility of the unification of North Ossetia and South Ossetia?

[Kulumbegov] It will happen sooner or later. How can Georgia tell us: You must remain with us? Love cannot be compelled. We must live apart for some time and then see whether we will agree to reunite with Georgia or not.

[Shevelev] Did you send your family away from Tskhinvali?

[Kulumbegov] My two sons capable of handling arms are here. My wife and a grandson are in Moscow. Incidentally, I am the last person to be accused of harbouring nationalist sentiments; my mother is Armenian, and my wife is Georgian.

[Shevelev] Are there any children in Tskhinvali still?

[Kulumbegov] Almost none. It would be tough for them. If we have to fight and die, then why should women and children have to die, too?

MOSCOW NEWS File. Torez Kulumbegov was born September 2, 1938, in Tskhinvali. Since the mid-50's, Torez worked with Komsomol and governmental bodies. In 1983 he was purged from the Communist

Party. However, he got a job as a secondary school director in Tskhinvali. For three years after that, he had to live in hiding in Moscow and around Armenia. He returned to Tskhinvali in 1986. In 1990 he was elected Chairman of the South Ossetia Supreme Soviet. He was arrested in January 1991, under Gamsakhurdia, and released in December 1992. He has three sons and a grandson.

Russian Observer Cited on Tskhinvali Situation

OW2506175592 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1711 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's delegate to a four-sided group of observers in South Ossetia, Lieutenant-Colonel Nikolay Buyanov has said that the situation in Tskhinvali is very complicated, but still can be controlled. Already now the observers have been making arrangements for a meeting of commanders from the rival factions.

The observers (two from each side—Russia, Georgia, North Ossetia and South Ossetia) have said that between June 12 and 24 a total of 263 shells and rockets crashed on the capital of South Ossetia.

In the meantime, the shelling of Tskhinvali Wednesday [24 June] night and Thursday morning left one person dead and three others injured.

The Dagomys agreement signed by the leaders of Georgia and Russia, the cease-fire in South Ossetia must be established by June 28.

Democratic Party Outlines Structure, Aims

AU2306161992 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA
in Georgian 28 May 92 p 3

[Article by Maia Aludauri under the rubric "The People Have To Be Informed": "The Democratic Party"]

[Text] Only about five months remain before the extremely important and responsible event in the life of our country—Georgia's parliamentary elections.

There are currently more than 30 political parties and organizations operating in Georgia that have been officially registered. Their number will probably double before the elections take place. Such a diversity of the political spectrum is, to a certain extent, confusing and even irritating our public. From today, our paper is beginning the rubric "The People Have To Be Informed" in which it will try, as much as possible, to acquaint the readers with all the parties. The parties are being presented according to the order of their registration in the Georgian Ministry of Justice. In following precisely this principle, the rubric's first guest is the Democratic Party.

Registration number 0001. Date of foundation: 23 May 1991. The leader of the Democratic Party and the chairman of its National Committee and leader of its

political committee is Kartlos Gharibashvili, candidate of juridical sciences, president of the National Association of Georgian Lawyers.

It is stated in the founding declaration of the Democratic Party: "The Democratic Party is and will always remain democratic, will struggle for and defend democracy, will create a law-governed state in our country, will strengthen the genuine freedom of the individual and private ownership and will defend them from all manner of infringements, and will guarantee peace and prosperity for the whole of Georgia and for each citizen."

The Democratic Party will bring international recognition for Georgia and will guarantee its real sovereignty."

Short history: The political course of the "Roundtable—Free Georgia" bloc that was victorious in the elections of 28 October 1990 was unacceptable to a large section of the public and also to a specific section of the "Democratic Georgia" electoral bloc that, following consultations and an agreement with various political parties and organizations, on 4 February of last year, founded the political movement for democracy "Democratic Georgia." In the initial period, the movement found quite a lot of support among the broad public and political forces. However, according to the opinion of the members of the Democratic Party, it was, nevertheless, finally unable to form a unifying bloc of progressive opposition forces. At the same time, as expected, its legalization was prevented by bureaucratic barriers erected by the former authorities.

Batoni [Georgian polite form of address] Kartlos stated: "It is true that, at that time, there already existed several political parties that were democratic in essence. However, we tried to form a political organization unifying simply all democracies. We do not view a multitude of parties as being a negative phenomenon as the formation of a party system is currently under way in ours. In time, two or three leading parties will manifest themselves, and the country's political spectrum will acquire a more complete look."

The following is stated in the party's rules: "The Democratic Party is an elective party. Its main aim is build a democratic, free, and independent Georgia and to create such a legal system in Georgia that will be based upon principles universally recognized by international law and upon our country's customs and traditions."

During the one year of its existence, the party has resolutely defended its own principles and actively participated in the peaceful political struggle against the ruling dictatorial regime. As early as the time when Gamsakhurdia's government was waging a shameful campaign of slander and insults against Batoni Eduard Shevardnadze, the Democratic Party elected him as its honorary chairman, thus openly manifesting its attitude toward one of the greatest international politicians of modern times.

"Time will show us," says the party's leader, "that we were not mistaken in electing him. Eduard Shevardnadze has rendered great service to world democracy. Our party has and always will follow and support his political course as we believe that it is precisely his experience, authority, and unfailing instinct that can bring Georgia peace, prosperity, and international recognition. If we take into account those beneficial shifts that have taken place in our country since his appointment to the post of chairman of the State Council, we can say that the Democratic Party has already fulfilled a certain number of its tasks."

In accordance with its organizational structure, the Democratic Party represents the sum total of regional organizations of democrats. Its supreme leading organ is the National Committee that is composed of representatives delegated from regional committees. The National Committee, along with its chairman, are steered by five cochairmen: Gela Kvilidze, Igor Pataridze, Guram Ustiashvili, David Kovziradze, and Merab Metreveli. The party's press secretary is Kalbatoni Lia Lazashvili, one of the party's founders.

Today, the Democratic Party unites 67 regional organizations. As the party's leader explained, these organizations are being set up in districts where deputies to the Georgian parliament are to be elected and a citizen who considers himself to be a democrat and who recognizes the party's rules can join the party in that electoral district in which he is a voter. One can join and leave the party on a voluntary basis. Party members neither pay membership dues nor carry party membership cards.

The Democratic Party's main goal at this stage is to elaborate its election platform. Proceeding from the current political situation in the country, the party's leaders consider the planning of political processes and the elaboration of programs over a number of years to be unrealistic, although they have a clearly formulated position on the necessity to rebuild state structures, as the main precondition for the country's political and economic progress lies specifically in the improvement of the state apparatus and, generally, in the reorganization of state power. However, all this probably belongs to the sphere of more future activities. Today, the party is actively preparing for the parliamentary elections and promises its voters that it will unconditionally fulfill those aims and tasks that are formulated in the founding declaration of the Democratic Party.

Georgia-Iran Communique Issued on Relations

AU2506163692 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA
in Georgian 19 Jun 92 p 1

[SAKINFORM report: "Georgia and Iran, as Friendly States, Will Actively Cooperate With one Another"]

[Text] A Joint Communique: On the Visit of the Republic of Georgia Delegation to the Islamic Republic of Iran

At the invitation of the Iranian side, a Republic of Georgia Government delegation headed by Republic of Georgia Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua visited the Islamic Republic of Iran between 14 and 16 June.

During the course of the visit, the Republic of Georgia delegation met with Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Ali Akbar Velayati, minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Following businesslike and constructive talks, the sides agreed that:

1. The Republic of Georgia and the Islamic Republic of Iran, taking into account that positive experience that exists in historic and cultural relations between the two countries, are to begin a new stage in the strengthening of good-neighborly and mutually beneficial cooperation on the bases of the recognized norms of international law, mutual respect, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and the recognition of each other's territorial integrity.

2. Taking into account each country's national interests, the sides express their readiness to develop and expand

good-neighborly and mutually beneficial cooperation in the political, economic, and cultural spheres the basis for which will be laid by signed bilateral documents.

3. The sides express the hope that Georgia and Iran, as neighboring states, will actively participate in the matter of regulating existing conflicts and maintaining stability and peace in the region.

4. They express particular concern regarding the conflict that has arisen in the Caucasus, specifically in Nagorno-Karabakh, whose escalation is extremely dangerous from the point of view of the formation of a new global hostility. Therefore, it is necessary to take every measure possible to bring an immediate halt to hostilities and begin a political dialogue.

5. The Georgian side welcomes the efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran in regulating the Karabakh conflict.

For its part, the Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes the initiatives of the Republic of Georgia in this direction.

The sides have agreed to hold consultations and exchange views aimed at resolving the aforementioned problem based on the initiatives that were outlined.

Estonia**'Concern' Expressed Over Russian Policy***LD2506172792 Tallinn Radio Estonia in English
1520 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Text] The chairman of the Estonian Supreme Council has expressed concern over Russian concept of adjacent foreign countries. The chairman of the Estonian Supreme Council, Arnold Ruutel, while addressing the festive occasion celebrating the Victory Day on 23 June, Tuesday, said the Estonian authorities are very much worried about Russia's recent statements about adjacent foreign countries where Russia is intending to observe other rules than in its relations with the rest of the world. So manifest claims of spheres of interest and rights to interfere with the internal affairs of other states are rarely to be met in the nowadays world, Mr. Ruutel said.

Stressing the importance of cooperation between the Baltic states and the Baltic Sea states, Mr. Ruutel pointed at the weakness of the present day European collective security system. Mr. Ruutel, at the ceremony of giving military ranks to about 100 Estonian officers in Tallinn on Tuesday said Estonia would set up a small number of mobile defense forces, connecting them with broad based defense union militia forces. According to Mr. Ruutel Estonia is still unable to control its territorial waters and air space despite the fact that it has managed to set up some mobile units and a border defense system. The general staff of defense forces would remain under direct authority of the Defense Council until Estonia gets its institutional organs of power.

Relations between the general staff and the Defense Ministry are to be developed on the basis of partnership, Mr. Ruutel added. Mr. Ruutel also termed the process of mobilization to the defense forces so far as unsatisfactory. Cutting the current one and a half year service term could come under consideration only after the forces have been technically better equipped.

Official Notes Readiness for 'Compromise'*OW2606130692 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1234 GMT 26 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Estonia's Deputy-Foreign Minister Trivimi Velliste announced at his Thursday's [25 June] press-conference in Tallinn that in case Russia has "an earnest intention to withdraw its troops" Estonia is ready to compromise on dates for scrapping some of its bases, such as the naval base in Paldiski. "Should the Russian delegation make substantially new proposals at the coming round of our talks, we are ready to resume negotiations defence issues", said Velliste.

Accounting Problems Remain With Russian Bank*LD2506223792 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network
in Estonian 1400 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Text] The Russian Central Bank has suspended acceptance of payment documents from 23 June until further notice, to credit Estonian legal and physical entities. This was reported by the public relations department of the Russian Central Bank. In regard to payment documents issued by the Estonian Bank before 22 June the old procedure applies. Transfers have been suspended because there is no agreement between the Russian Central Bank and the Estonian Bank on the procedures for settlement of accounts following the Estonian monetary reform. The above agreement was concluded on 20 June in Moscow but numerous technical issues have not yet been resolved.

Galina Litvinova, vice president of the Estonian Bank, is holding talks in Moscow today to find solutions to these issues.

Government Defines Exchange Rate of New Kroon*OW2006182792 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1733 GMT 20 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On June 19 the Committee on Monetary Reform in Estonia published a statement which declares that the single legal unit of payment in republic is an Estonian kroon beginning 4.00 on June 20. Roubles circulated in the republic will be exchanged according to the exchange rate 10 roubles for one kroon but not more than 1500 roubles for one resident in the course of three days. The savings-banks will exchange the deposits in proportion 10 roubles for 1 Estonian kroon. Deposits received after May 1 and exceeding 50 thousand roubles will be frozen until their origin is found out.

A sum of money totalling 1500 roubles can be exchanged according to the exchange rate 50 roubles for 1 Estonian kroon.

Speaking in a TV address Friday the President of Bank of Estonia Siim Kallas declined that the exchange rate of the Estonian kroon will be correlated with the exchange rate of the German Marks and will constitute 0.125, that is 8 Estonian kroons will correspond to 1 German Mark. The exchange rate of the Estonian kroon is established corresponding to other currencies as well.

U.S. dollar—12.596 kroons
Finnish markka—2.9356 kroons
Swedish krone—2.2148 kroons

The president of Bank of Estonia highly estimated the assistance rendered by the International Monetary Fund and World Bank in developing the reform. He was even "slightly surprised" by such a good attitude.

*** The food shops which were to be opened at 11.00 on Saturday according to the decision passed by Tallinn's City Hall, cannot begin their work as small coins were not delivered. Many people have gathered at the entrances of the shops wishing to make first purchases for kroons.

New prices are already known. After recalculations into kroons and addition of 18% turnover tax (introduced simultaneously with the beginning of the reform) the prices appeared to be higher:

one kilogram of butter—20.00 kroons
half a liter of milk—0.90 kroon
a liter of yogurt—1.70 kroons
a jar of sour cream—1.45 kroons
a loaf of bread—0.85 kroon
a bun ("Kiili")—1.00 kroon

*** The state union "Eesti Kutus" (Estonian fuel) told "BF" [BALTFAX] that the prices for petrol in Estonian kroons are as following:

A-76—2.15 kroons a liter
A-92 and A-93—3.00 kroons a liter
A-95—3.55 kroons a liter
diesel fuel—1.95 kroons a liter

Beginning June 20 one can receive accommodations in any Tallinn hotel paying in Estonian kroons. After the introduction of a new monetary unit the prices sharply increased in comparison with the rouble tariffs:

Hotel	Olimpia	Viru	Palas
with a berth for 1	590.-	650.-	1890.-
with berths for 2	780.-	800.-	2390.-
deluxe	950.-	1200.-	2580.-
half deluxe		1000.-	
super de luxe	1050.-		
room "sweet" [as received]			3270.-
"sweet" with sauna			3840.-

Before the reform a room with a berth for 1 in "Olimpia" cost 2000 roubles a day for residents of the rouble zone or 75 U.S. dollars for foreigners; a room with a berth for 1 in "Viru" cost 220 rouble for an Estonian, 1500 roubles for a guest from the CIS, and 80 dollars for a foreigner.

News Conference Held on Introduction of Kroon

LD2206180592 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network
in Estonian 1700 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Today at 1600 the Estonian Bank's news conference took place at Tallinn Press Center devoted to monetary reform. [passage omitted] According to Siim Kallas [president of the Estonian Bank], there was unexpectedly sturdy resistance to the idea to introduce our

own currency. Even now there are still numerous people who would like the Estonian kroon to fail. The board of the Estonian Bank, however, will not go back on its decision to introduce our own currency in circulation.

A great role was also paid by the judgment of the IMF during the preparations for the monetary reform. [passage omitted] An IMF mission which has been working in Estonia since the beginning of June was satisfied with the republican government's program for the stabilization of the economy. On 18 June the IMF made a statement in support of our monetary reform. This is very essential to us; without it, it would be considerably harder to obtain loans from foreign banks.

Talks with the Russian Central Bank were also discussed. Up until yesterday the matter was not taken particularly seriously in Moscow. Being faced with the fact that the monetary reform was called in Estonia forced the Russian Central Bank's leadership to sign the documents which had been drawn up. There were three documents: on mutual obligations of Estonia and Russia; organizing settlement of accounts between banks; and on payments. In order to simplify the settlement of accounts it has been decided according to a mutual agreement to open a branch of the Russian Central Bank in Estonia.

From yesterday only the Estonian kroon is valid on the territory of the Republic of Estonia. In total 593,164,250 Estonian kroons have been put into circulation. Trade with rubles continues in some places. This is against the law. According to Siim Kallas, strict measures will be applied immediately after the monetary reform ends, on 22 June at 2200. The police will be sent out to fight the black market and an end will be put to the opinion that on the territory of Estonia everybody can do as they please. [passage omitted]

According to what Siim Kallas said, monetary reform will effect us in several ways. People and enterprises will find themselves motivated to work well and to earn a lot of money. Ineffective enterprises will be faced with closure. We will be able to taste the fruits of the monetary reform in the autumn.

No Restrictions on Hard Currency Exchange

LD2206182892 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network
in Estonian 1400 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] (Mart Karmo), acting head of the hard currency department at the Estonian Bank, told BALTIC NEWS SERVICE that commercial banks attached to the Estonian Bank will be able to continue to buy and sell hard currency to and from the population without any restrictions after the monetary reform. He gave assurances that there will be no restrictions or conditions on residents of Estonia when they buy foreign hard currency from banks with kroons, and that there will be no requests made to produce documents certifying a forthcoming trip abroad. The exchange rate for buying and selling hard currency at commercial banks in Estonia must not differ by more than 1 percent. An upper limit for private individuals on

taking hard currency out of the country has been set at 1,000 German marks [DM], or 8,000 Estonian kroons. Enterprises' hard currency accounts were not frozen in the course of the monetary reform and the freely convertible currency on those accounts can be used until the end of the year. The hard currency received by enterprises after the monetary reform will be bought by the state at the rate set by the Estonian Bank. This will be based on the exchange rate between the kroon and the German mark [1 DM is 8 kroons].

Any enterprise may buy hard currency for import transactions in hard currency when it presents documents to the bank certifying the transaction.

German-Model Privatization Agency To Debut

LD2506214292 Tallinn Estonian Television Network in Estonian 1730 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Within the next few months the state establishment which will deal with the privatization and reorganization of state property is due to become effective. This is what Andres Bergman, deputy economics minister in charge of privatization and foreign relations, has told ETA. For the time being, the enterprise will be called the Estonian Privatization Establishment. It will be modelled on Treuhandanstalt, a state administrative trust organization which was set up at the time of unification of East and West Germany. The latter has justified its existence in every way and has done a lot toward a smooth changeover from the command economy to the market economy in the former GDR.

Metal Theft From Radioactive Waste Dump Noted

LD2506211192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2052 GMT 25 Jun 92

[By ETA-TASS]

[Text] Tallinn June 25 TASS—Several tons of metal scrap was stolen from a plant's radioactive waste dump in the Sillamya city. Until recently this plant was recycling the uranium concentrate. The theft of rare earth metals is not ruled out from the whole volume of the scrap, the "MOLODYOZH ESTONII" newspaper reported quoting the Sillamya prefecture, which is investigating the incident. The number of the vehicle and the place of its registration have been established, and at present the destination of the the dangerous cargo is being clarified.

Last week the Government of Estonia once again banned the export of non-ferrous metals from the country, except for in cases when a license is taken out beforehand and is within the permitted quota.

Kaitseliit Vows To Continue 'Armed Resistance'

OW2506193492 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1910 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Martial law, declared in 1952 by the republican government in exile, will stay in effect as long as "Russian troops of occupation and armed detachments of colonizers remain in Estonia", says a statement adopted by the Harju district force of the "Kaitseliit" paramilitary organization.

"Since negotiations by current authorities with Russia on the withdrawal of its troops and the hand-over of their hardware have had no effect, we see the sole way out in going ahead with armed resistance, which remained incomplete in the 50's. We swear not to stop it until the last soldier of the occupation troops has left the territory of the Estonian republic", the statement says.

Attempt Made To Seize Baltic Fleet Radio Post

LD2406204492 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1846 GMT 24 Jun 92

[From the "Military News" section]

[Text] Tallinn—[Words indistinct] at the village of Undva (Estonia), an attempt was made to seize the radio-technical post of the Baltic Fleet.

An unknown person, who called himself captain of Estonia self-defense forces, came to the post and ordered the chief of the post, Midshipman Vitaliy Boltukhov, to liberate the territory and the premises and to give away all the arms and property. A warning in a categorical manner was made that if the demands are not fulfilled, the captain will lead his men and take the arms by force. Midshipman Vitaliy Boltukhov managed to report about this to the commanders of Tallinn Navy Base, after which the communications were interrupted.

As PF [POSTFACTUM] was told by Lieutenant-Colonel Yuriy Komaritskiy, senior officer of Tallinn Navy Base in charge of public relations, a trawler was sent to help the post.

Latvia

Transfer of Nuclear Arms Across Border Banned

OW2506192292 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1910 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Lithuanian parliament has adopted a law on the state border banning the movement nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction in either direction. Foreign army contingents or transit military cargoes will cross the borders under Lithuania's international agreements.

The resolution on effecting the law says that the Lithuanian parliament has no objections to the visa-free crossing of Lithuania's borders by people carrying the passports of Iceland, Latvia, Estonia and the United Kingdom.

Baltic Proposals on Russian Aid, Troops Noted

LD2606114592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 0800 GMT 26 Jun 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Anatoliy Gorbunovs, head of the Latvian parliament, told ITAR-TASS on the eve of today's Council of Baltic States meeting that the Baltic states will discuss two alternative versions of their requests to the "Big Seven" countries on the eve of their meeting in Munich. The first alternative version is not to render Russia any aid at all until the schedule for withdrawing troops is to the Baltic states' liking. The second is to render aid but to channel part of it into promoting the Russian Army's withdrawal by setting up a special international fund for the purpose.

Delegation Leaves for Austria for Talks

LD2506221192 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian
0400 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] This morning a Latvian Government delegation is going to Vienna at the invitation of the Republic of Austria to sign an agreement on mutual economic cooperation. The delegation is led by Ivars Godmanis. Going to Austria with him are Ministers Janis Jurkans, Edgars Zausajevs, Andris Gutmanis, and other officials. This is what was said before departing for Vienna by a member of the delegation, Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Arijis Ziverts:

[Begin Ziverts recording] The Republic of Latvia has already signed trade agreements with Sweden, Norway, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, and Poland. In connection with the agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the Austrian Embassy, from January to April we were working on a trade and economic cooperation agreement with Austria. This agreement was initialled on 10 April. Considering the great interest of both sides in trade and economic cooperation, we considered it useful to propose to the Austrian side that we sign this agreement at a high level and combine it with the visit of a government delegation to Austria. The Austrian side received this suggestion very positively.

It is very interesting what interests the Austrian side about us. They are primarily interested in the course of privatization in Latvia. They are very interested in the economic and political relations with the former Soviet Union. In addition, they are interested in mutual cooperation of the Baltic states, the process of forming political parties in Latvia, and our concepts of foreign economic relations with East and West.

On our side, the most essential aspects at the moment, and what we want to talk about, are mainly connected with the energy base and the purchase of fuel. They are connected with the creation of joint manufacturing ventures. Among the most important aspects are tourism, infrastructure development, and.... [interview ends]

Grain Credits Available to Private Farmers

LD2306180792 Riga Radio Riga Network in Russian
2000 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] The Latvijas Labiba state grain concern has started crediting Latvian private farmers so as to get producers interested in concluding contracts on grain supplies. The sum of a credit hinges on the amount of grain supplied and amounts to 30-40 percent of its price, and the price in effect at the moment is 3,000 or 4,000 rubles [R] per tonne. According to predictions, the price per tonne of grain might rise to R14,000 by this fall.

At the present time about 500 private farmers have concluded contracts with the concern. The maximum sum received as a credit is R500,000. The credit interest rate is two percent.

New Head of Latvian Radio Interviewed

LD2206074292 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian
0430 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Excerpts] As is known, the Latvian parliament has elected the director general of the Latvian Radio state enterprise. He is Arnolds Klotins, a musicologist, once a participant in making radio and television programs himself. On the threshold of his new appointment, Arnolds Klotins was interviewed by Rasma Malinovska:

[Begin recording] [Malinovska] How do you evaluate the radio programs at the moment—purely as a listener? Do you listen to the radio often and how does it satisfy you?

[Klotins] Yes, I listen to the radio often. I have great sympathy for radio because I think that radio has done very much in the political transformations that have happened up to now. [passage omitted]

[Malinovska] Entering your new post, how do you intend to begin?

[Klotins] I will start with a most thorough analysis of the current situation, and my first concern is of course the juridical and economic service within the radio itself. If the radio is to be an institution that earns as well—and it is a huge institution, with relations with various institutions—then it has various tasks, and the juridical and economic side is one of the most important. [end recording]

Lithuania

Factions Call For Landsbergis Resignation

OW1706143192 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1352 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Representatives of the left-wing and centre factions of the Lithuanian parliament on Tuesday [16 June] called for the resignation of Vytautas Landsbergis.

The leader of the centrist faction, Social Democrat Aloyzas Sakalas, named incumbent deputy parliamentary leader Kazimieras Motieka, an outspoken critic of Mr Landsbergis's policies since last month, as candidate for the post.

For his part, Landsbergis speaking on national television last night described the opposition statement as an intimidation attempt.

At the moment, neither of the two rival alliances—Sajudis's Democratic Lithuania and the left and centre coalition—is strong enough to force Landsbergis's resignation.

The two factions meeting privately on Tuesday had also failed to reach agreement on when and how new general elections must be held.

Faction Brings Charges Against Vagnorius

OW2506152392 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1418 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The National Progress faction, which is one of the most influential factions of the Lithuanian parliamentarians, have voiced their non-confidence in the republic's Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius at the parliament's plenary session today. They also reattested that he present to the parliament a report of his activities as the head of government. The faction leaders have charged Mr Vagnorius with "systematic violations of legislation of the Lithuanian Republic, unlawful squandering of the republic's budget, and serious damage to the national economy".

Deputies Adopt Laws, Resolution 25 Jun

OW2506152792 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1418 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In the assessment of local observers, the work of the Lithuanian parliament today was characterized by unusual productivity. Before noon, the deputies had adopted the laws On The State Border and its maintenance, and On Agricultural Taxation. The parliament also adopted resolution on the republic's recognition of Bosnia, Hercegovina and Macedonia. The parliament ratified its earlier decision to deprive Virgilijus Cepaitis of his deputy statute due to his conscious collaboration with the KGB, as was established as a fact by the republic's Supreme Court.

The parliament initiated the discussion of the draft statute on the elections to the Sejm (parliament) of the Lithuanian republic and a draft resolution on holding extraordinary elections to parliament. Last week, the parliamentarians were addressing the theses of these documents.

Resolution Bans Lay-Offs Until 1 Sep

OW2506152492 Moscow BALTFAX in English
0634 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Lithuanian government has passed a resolution banning directors of state and state-joint stock companies from laying off their employees until September 1, 1992. Exceptions can be made if workers violate laws or express willingness to quit.

Chairman of a Lithuanian parliamentary commission Kazimieras Antanavicius characterized this step as "an absolute neglect of Lithuania's affairs". He believes the republican leadership makes workers stand idle at their working places instead of seeking foreign investment, creating new jobs and setting up new small enterprises. Many state and state joint stock companies have been working incomplete working weeks for already several months. Meanwhile, nearly 20,000 people are looking for jobs at labor exchanges, 9,000 of them have an official status of unemployed.

Landsbergis Comments on Relations With Poland

LD1806093192 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International
Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Report by Rima Jakutyte]

[Text] In an interview to ELTA and Radio Free Europe correspondents given at Warsaw Airport yesterday late in the evening, Vytautas Landsbergis called Lithuanian-Polish relations good. At the same time he admitted that the preparation of an interstate treaty could proceed more vigorously. The solution of issues concerning transport communications could also proceed more vigorously, especially the opening of the new checkpoint at Kalvarija to Poland. Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and Finland are interested in this, but, according to Landsbergis, at the moment one gets the impression that Poland is less interested.

He was also surprised at various misinterpretations on the issue of minorities which say that allegedly he is against elections to the local governments in Vilnius and Salcininkai rayons this autumn. On the contrary, both he and the deputies of the Sajudis coalition have proposed holding the elections there together with the Lithuanian Seimas elections.

When asked to voice his opinion about specific plans to set up a border protection unit in Punks, the leader of the Lithuanian parliament said that we can and must reach an agreement with the Polish border guards concerning the state border service. There is no need to set up large units on both sides of the border. This would look like an undesirable demonstration, as if interstate relations are bad when in fact this is not so, said Landsbergis.

Banks Discontinue Sales of Hard Currency
OW2306143792 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1412 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Most banks in Lithuania, both state-owned and commercial, including the republic's major Vilnius Bankas, Hermis, and Litimpex, have terminated sale of hard currency. The Litimpex spokesman explained to the BALTFAX correspondent that this decision was invoked by the rash demand for hard currency and simultaneous decrease of its release to the banks. The bank's officials associate these processes primarily with the introduction of the Eesti kroon. First, Lithuania was flooded with the rubles coming from Estonia; second, this serves as a reminder to the Lithuanians of the anticipated introduction of their national tender—Litas. The Estonian example has once again demonstrated that the holders of hard currency enjoy much better opportunities for obtaining the national tender than the holders of valueless rubles.

The fact that the republic's population stopped selling hard currency to the banks indicates that the people are losing faith in the opportunities for the ruble to become stable, whereas the sky-rocketing prices for US dollars at the hard currency markets of the Baltic countries leads to the conclusion that the people there would not be willing to sell their hard currency for rubles.

In the meantime, the Lithuanian "black market" reveals a growing interest of the cash dealers in purchasing the so-called "general coupons" (certificate rubles) for rubles. The observers linked that trend with the rumors which have it that during the reform the coupons would become more preferable in comparison with the rubles. In all probability, the dollar rate at the "black market" is likely to continue rising after the republic's banks have quit sale of hard currency.

Industrial Output Figures Depict Sharp Decline

LD1706084192 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network
in Lithuanian 0900 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] The Statistical Department attached to the Lithuanian Government has supplied data reflecting the work of Lithuania's industry in the first five months of this year. We will mention some figures:

In the first five months of this year, Lithuanian industrial enterprises sold products worth 68 billion rubles. More than half of these products were destined for the domestic market. In calculating industrial output at comparable prices, in January-May 1992, 42.6 percent less goods were sold than in the corresponding period last year. The main reason is a declining volume of production.

The output of the most important industrial goods in January-May of this year as compared with the same period of last year declined: power—by 25.4 percent,

mineral fertilizers—by 35.3 percent, synthetic washing products—by 46.2 percent, chemical fiber and yarn—by 27.8 percent. The output of fabrics, footwear, television sets, refrigerators, and other goods has also declined.

[BALTFAX in English at 1816 GMT on 16 Jun in a similar report adds the output reductions of: "cement—by 35.6%, fabrics (natural)—by 13.2%, shoes—by 20%, TV sets—by 12.3%, refrigerators—by 61.34%. Oil was reprocessed by half of the previous year level."]

The output of food products declined. For instance, the output of meat, including first category products, declined by 15.5 percent. As compared with January-May last year, the selling prices increased 12.9 times. In the fuel industry, the price of products increased by 47 times, in the chemical and oil industry by 30 times.

[Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian at 1400 GMT on 12 June broadcasts a similar report on statistics which adds the following: "The production of canned fish declined by almost 53 percent, the production of sugar by 52 percent. The production of groats declined by almost 45 percent as compared with the correspondent period last year. The production of combined fodder at the state enterprises declined by almost 53 percent."]

Supreme Council Appeals for Calm, Understanding

LD2206152292 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network
in Lithuanian 1800 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Here is a statement by the Presidium of the Lithuanian Supreme Council:

Utterances not supported by arguments, accusations, direct and anonymous threats, insults, and even open slanders addressed to individual politicians, factions, and parties have become more frequent in the Supreme Council hall and outside in meetings, pickets, and public information media. This further exacerbates the political situation and harms the principles of a democratic state and the accord which is being sought by the politicians and wise compromises.

We appeal to the deputies of the Supreme Council and to all citizens of Lithuania, in solving complex political problems prior to the elections to the Seimas, not to be guided by emotions alone, to support their stands with clear arguments, to be restrained and wise. We believe that goodwill and the desire to solve Lithuania's common problems and not only group or party affairs will enable us further to strengthen statehood and democracy.

The statement was signed by the chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Council, Vytautas Landsbergis.

'Bright' Future of Military Aviation 'Illusion'

*LD2406194592 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network
in Lithuanian 0900 GMT 24 Jun 92*

[Excerpts] Not many people know that the Ministry of Aviation Service Headquarters [name as heard] has been set up in Kaunas. It has been in existence for exactly half a year. This is the beginning of Lithuanian military aviation. Edvardas Mazeikis, deputy head of the aviation service military training department, maintains that a start has been made to aviation work as the service has 25 AN-2 airplanes. These planes are known as kuku-ruznik [hedge-hoppers]. These airplanes are good for training purposes, but to protect the airspace about 100 fighter airplanes and helicopters are needed, each costing several million dollars or more.

Mazeikis hopes that in the near future they will manage to purchase good quality second-hand machines in the West and that there will be no shortage of pilots in Lithuania. Many people have come into aviation service from the former Soviet Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

The air transport of the neighboring state takes out goods in short supply without any controls. New conscripts for the Russian Army are brought in by Russian airplanes and helicopters. The aviation service is recording the violations and writing protest notes. At the moment this amounts to the protection of the airspace. So far the bright future of Lithuanian military aviation is a far off illusion. [passage omitted]

Official on Former Communist Party Property

*OW2506153092 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1419 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The office of Lithuania's General Procurator, in compliance with the resolution of the Republic's parliament On Appropriation Of Property Which Formerly Belonged To The Communist Party Of Lithuania (CPSU) And Other Communist Organizations, has instructed the procurators in the towns and cities throughout the Republic to inspect all the transactions lying behind the transfer or sale of the former Communist Party and Komsomol property to joint-stock companies, legal and natural persons.

The General Procurator's office has advised the control department to audit all the financial and economic operations of the closed-type joint-stock companies, such as "Forum", "Ida" and "Sputnik" which received most of the Party's and Komsomol's monetary funds and property.

Beginning from November, 1991, up to June 1, 1992, the Republic's procurator's offices submitted to the State's Court of Arbitration 39 law suits against various legal persons re [as received] termination of leasing and return of property which they were disposing of unlawfully. By

the decisions of the Court of Arbitration the state has recovered over 1 million 734 rubles worth of material values and monetary funds.

The municipal and regional procurators also brought to courts 48 suits as regards return of property which formerly belonged to the Communist organizations and was sold or transferred to natural persons or private enterprises. As a result, the state reimbursed over 300,000 rubles.

Television, Radio Administration Board Resigns

*LD2206082492 Vilnius Radio Vilnius
International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT
18 Jun 92*

[Text] A letter of resignation has been handed to the Supreme Council by the Administration Board of Lithuanian Radio and Television. The resignation letter is signed by 10 members of the Administration Board who had not resigned yet; eight members of the Administration Board resigned earlier for various reasons.

The Administration Board of Lithuanian Radio and Television was set up and confirmed in the spring of 1990 by the Supreme Council. The Administration Board was set up mainly to restructure the national radio and television which until then was under direct control of the Communist Party.

Essentially this has failed. According to the resignation letter, during the confirmation of the Statute on the initiative of the then Supreme Council, majority amendments were made, and the statement which said that Lithuanian Radio and Television was an independent organization was crossed out and replaced by a statement which said that it is a state office accountable to parliament, and that radio and television must present the government's point of view on the main issues of life of the state and the society, and so on.

Lithuanian radio and television soon became politicized throughout, the standard and professionalism of programs declined, and one official opinion became more and more predominant in the programs, and so on.

Although the Administration Board appealed to the Supreme Council with proposals on more than one occasion, no constructive decisions have been received. The resigning Administration Board has the opinion that with the approaching new elections, the political pressure and the rush to radio and television by government representatives will increase even more, and the level of tolerance, democracy, and standard of programs will decline further.

The Administration Board cannot and does not want to be responsible for this, therefore it requests the acceptance of its resignation. At the same time the Administration Board proposes setting up a commission from all

the parliament factions which could monitor the political balance of programs until the elections, and which would not allow the worst political passions to be stirred up.

Commercial Radio Station Venture Viewed

*LD2506201692 Hilversum Radio Netherlands
in English 0850 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Interview With Paul Rusling, director of Baltic Radio Limited, by unidentified presenter, on formation of Baltic Radio International; from the "Media Network" program]

[Text] [Presenter] We did a search in London at Companies' House to discover that Iconi Radio Limited was registered in Humberside. It has since changed into Baltic Radio Limited and appears to be serious about a joint venture with the Lithuanian Ministry of Communications. One of the directors is Paul Rusling. Paul, you may remember, was involved with the Laser 558 offshore station in its early days. Now he is in Lithuania putting up a 200- KW mediumwave transmitter and claiming Baltic Radio Limited has investments in Lithuania alone of some 4.5 million US dollars. So, how will this venture make money?

[Rusling] Advertising.

[Presenter] Is there a big market for that in that part of the world?

[Rusling] Absolutely. The station will not be aiming at the Baltic states. It will be aiming at Scandinavia. As you know Sweden has a population of 8.5 million people. It is one of the few countries in the Western world that does not have commercial radio. Advertisers or the multinationals we have talked to perceive them as being a very desirable audience for their products.

[Presenter] In English?

[Rusling] In English, yes: 96% of the Swedish population understand English anyway, but they are only a small part of the market. I mean, if we were just broadcasting to Sweden, the station would be viable in its own right. But in fact we are aiming at a wider audience around the shores of the Baltic: thus the name Baltic Radio International—not necessarily an on-air ID but certainly a working title for the project.

[Presenter] So you found people to lend you all this money because, I mean, it is a huge investment you are talking about?

[Rusling] There are very few people who have loaned money to the project. Most of them have invested it as equity.

[Presenter] The station should broadcast 24-hours a day on a frequency in the lower part of the mediumwave band. But surely the transmitter site will have to perform better than Lithuania's current site just north of Vilnius?

[Rusling] Oh! yes absolutely. The 500 kW's they have on 666 kHz has a horribly inefficient antenna system. This is going to be located between Klaipeda and Palanga on the Lithuanian coast and aimed directly up the Baltic at Denmark and Sweden.

[Presenter] You say it is going to start, what?, at the beginning of next year.

[Rusling] The beginning of next year is the earliest you are going to hear anything I would imagine. We are also providing some other facilities. We are providing them with an emergency broadcast station on the same site with a directional antenna which will beam into Lithuania. I do not know how they are going to run it or on what frequency, but we are providing that as a gift. That is not particularly high-powered but they feel it would be the last to go if the state systems were taken over again.... I should add that we have the full support of the entire Lithuanian Government on this. The minister of defense, the minister of communications and the minister of foreign investment, they actually have one of those, were 100% behind the station because they see it as a very important strategic link that should anything untoward happen and they lose control of their own broadcast services, they do have one last way of broadcasting to the West and they do not think that that one would be seized by any aggressive power.

Newspaper Subscriptions Experience Down Trend

*OW2506193792 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1911 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In Lithuania, the subscription deadline for the second half of the year has expired. The general downward trend in subscription is blamed on high prices.

The greatest number of subscribers has been collected by the newspaper 'VALSTIECIU LAIKRASTIS' (141,493), which is distributed among rural residents. That paper lost more than 20 [as received] subscribers. The popular weekly 'LIETUVOS RYTAS' has lost 51.5 thousand subscribers. In the second half of the year 84,782 people will be receiving it. The independent newspaper 'RESPUBLIKA' lost 10 thousand readers and collected 97,782 subscribers. The sole government newspaper 'LIETUVOS AIDAS', whose privatization began just recently lost a little more than one thousand readers and retained 77,319.